EASTMAN'S WHITE MOUNTAIN GUIDE.

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MAP OF ROUTES
to the
WHITE MOUNTAINS.
FOR
Eastman's White Mountain Guide Book.
QUEBEC
River St Lawrence
MONTREAL
CANADA
EAST
MAINE
NEW HAMPSHIRE
VERMONT
NEW YORK
MASSACHUSETTS
CONNECTICUT
RHODE ISLAND
GRAND TRUNK R.R.
Richmond Junction
Sherbrooke
Lennoxville
Outlet
Memphremagog Lake
Stanstead
Derby
Rouses Point
Moores Junction
Plattsburg
St Albans
Newport
Jay Peak
Barton
Willoughby Lake
Island Pond
Dixville Notch
Stratford Peaks
Northumberland
Lancaster
Whitefield
St Johnsbury
Mt Washington
Berlin
Gorham
Paris
Essex Junction
Mansfield Mt
Stow
Burlington
MONTPELIER
Littleton
Camels Hump
Wells River
Bartlett
No. Conway
Conway
Danville Junction
Long Pond
Ticonderoga
Castleton
Rutland
Plymouth
White River Junction
Killington Peak
Windsor
Whitehall
Caldwell
Lake George
Ascutney Mt
Mt Kearsarge
Centre Harbor
Winnepesaukee Lake
Wolfsboro
Portland
Alton
Rochester
Dover
Berwick Junction
CONCORD
Bellows Falls
Saratoga
Keene
Monadnoc Mt
Portsmouth
Manchester
Brattleboro
Nashua
Newburyport
Groton Junction
Lowell
ALBANY
Greylock Mt
Wachusett Mt
Amherst
BOSTON
Northampton
Worcester
Cohasset
Mt Tom
Palmer
Springfield
Mansfield
Plymouth
Hudson River
PROVIDENCE
Bristol
Fall River
HARTFORD
Willimantic
New Bedford
Norwich
Allyns P.
Groton
Newport
Wood's Hole
NEW HAVEN
LONG ISLAND SOUND
LONG ISLAND
NEW YORK
Nantucket
1. Flume House.
2. Profile
3. White Mountain House.
4. Crawford House.
5. Glen
6. Alpine

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THE

WHITE MOUNTAIN

GUIDE BOOK.

FIFTEENTH EDITION.

CONCORD:
EDSON C. EASTMAN.
BOSTON: LEE & SHEPARD.
1879.

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SAMUEL C. EASTMAN,
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PREFACE.

THE book is designed to assist those persons who, having but a short time to spend in the mountains, desire to use it to the best advantage. There are many summits which might be ascended, and many excursions which may be made by sojourners for the summer, which are not here described. It is believed, however, that it contains an account of what is reasonably essential to a pleasant tour in the White Mountains.

Much of the first edition, published in 1858, was written by the late Rev. THOMAS STARR KING, who wrote the description of the Eastern side of the mountains; by Rev. AUGUSTUS WOODBURY, of Providence; and Rev. DANIEL GOODWIN, of Dedham, Mass. It has all been carefully revised for the present edition. A map, showing the routes, has been prepared expressly for the book. A map of the mountain region, which will be found to be in every way reliable, also accompanies the volume. It was prepared by Mr. CHARLES H. V. CAVIS, the engineer of the Mount Washington Carriage Road, expressly for this Guide Book.

S. C. EASTMAN.

PRELIMINARY VIEW.

The White Mountain region of New Hampshire has practically three approaches. One of them is through Gorham, on the eastern side, and is reached both from the north and south by the Grand Trunk Railway. The way to the second is Conway, which leads the visitor directly into the heart of the White Mountain Notch, or to the Glen House; and is made accessible by rail from Boston, via Portland, over the Portland and Ogdensburg Railroad, or over the Eastern and Great Falls and Conway, or by the aid of the railroads centring at Concord, by the way of Lake Winnipiseogee. The third is from the north-western side, over the Boston, Concord, and Montreal Railroad, which now delivers its passengers at the very base of Mount Washington, connecting with the railroad up the mountain. By the latter route also, the Franconia range is rendered accessible by the Notch Road, which connects with the other roads at Bethlehem, and also by stage, and by the beautiful and justly renowned Pemigewasset Valley line from the South, leaving the cars at Plymouth.

Into one or the other of these routes, all the

various lines from the cities of New York, Boston, and from Canada, finally leave the tourist.

From New York to Boston there are several available routes. The Sound lines of steamers, and the night trains by rail, all land their passengers in Boston in season to connect with the morning trains to the mountains. The morning express from New York connects with the night trains from Boston, over the Boston, Concord, and Montreal Railroad. The Sound lines are the Fall River and Providence, with the maximum of boat, and minimum of rail; the Stonington and the New London, each avoiding the sea passage of Point Judith.

From Boston, these are the following routes through the three principal avenues to the mountains: —

1. Via Gorham. Boston to Portland, by the Eastern Railroad, through Newburyport and Portsmouth, and thence over the Grand Trunk Railway. The Lowell and Boston and Maine Railroads also run trains to Portland. The morning trains reach Portland at noon, and Gorham late in the afternoon, in season to reach the Glen House for tea, if desired. There is also a daily line of steamers between Boston and Portland, leaving each place in the evening, and another tri-weekly line.

2. Via Conway. Conway may be reached by rail, by the Eastern Railroad and its Great Falls and Conway branch, via Portsmouth; over the Portland and Ogdensburg Railroad by the way of Portland; via Lake Winnipesaukee, over the Central New Hampshire line of roads through Concord, taking

the boat at Weirs; or over the Boston and Maine, taking the boat at Alton Bay. By the lake line there is a stage ride from Centre Harbor to Ossipee.

3. To Franconia and Mt. Washington, over the Boston, Concord, and Montreal Railroad. Trains leave the dépôt of the Lowell Road at 8 o'clock A.M., and proceed, without change of cars, via Concord, to Plymouth, where a stage may be taken up the Pemigewasset Valley to the Franconia Notch, or continuing the journey by train to the Profile House or the White Mountain Notch region.

The direct connections between New York and the Third Avenue to the mountains, not passing through Boston, are by the Fall River, the Providence, and the New London lines of boats. Trains leave the places named after the arrival of the boats in season to connect at Nashua with the morning express trains from Boston. The morning express train from the Fabyan House also connects with the boats at the same places. All of these trains have parlor cars running between the boat termini and the mountains. By all these lines the time between New York and the mountains is less than twenty-four hours.

The Connecticut Valley route from New York approaches the mountains from the west. Leaving New York by rail, at Springfield, Mass., a change is made to the cars of the Connecticut River Road, passing through Northampton and Holyoke, and in sight of Mt. Tom on the west side, and Mt. Holyoke on the east side of the river, through Greenfield, to

South Vernon, Vt. From this place the Vermont Valley Railroad passes through Brattleborough to Bellows Falls. Thence the route proceeds by the Sullivan Railroad to Windsor, Vt.; thence by the Central Vermont to White River Junction; thence by the Passumpsic Railroad to Wells River, joining the line of travel over the Boston, Concord, and Montreal Railroad. The train leaving New York at 8 A.M. reaches the mountains the same night, parlor cars running the whole distance without change.

There is also a route to Franconia and Mt. Washington from New York by the way of Albany, Rutland, and Bellows Falls, Vt. Passengers leave New York by Hudson River Railroad, or by boat, reaching Troy in season for the cars over the Rutland and Washington, or Western Vermont Railroad, to Rutland, where they remain over night. Leaving by early train the next morning, they reach Bellows Falls in time to connect with the trains north to Windsor, White River, and Littleton; thus uniting at Bellows Falls with the route just named.

Besides the routes already mentioned as connecting with the steamers over the Sound, there is the one from New London, over the New London Northern Railroad. Trains leave New London at 5 A.M., connecting at Brattleborough with the routes already described, and reaching the mountains in the evening.

From Niagara and the Canadas the routes are substantially the same. Montreal or Quebec may

be reached by boat down the St. Lawrence, or by rail; and the Grand Trunk Railway will carry you thence to Gorham or the east. If Franconia Notch or the White Mountains is the point aimed, the Grand Trunk must be left at Northumberland, where the Boston, Concord, and Montreal connects. So also, at Lennoxville, a connection is made with the Passumpsic River Railroad. At Sherbrooke there is a stage connection with Outlet Village, on Lake Memphremagog. Montreal may also be left by the Vermont Central route, via St. Albans and Montpelier; or by the South Eastern Counties Railway, via Newport and Wells River. Finally, the Grand Trunk may be left still earlier at Ogdensburg; and the traveller may proceed directly to Rouse's Point, and thence via St. Alban's and Montpelier.

The Saratoga and Western connection is now established by the way of Burlington. Trains leave the Fabyan House in the morning, over the Boston, Concord, and Montreal Railroad, connecting at Wells River with the road to Montpelier, and thence over the Central Vermont Railroad and its connections, via Burlington. The train to the mountains reaches the Fabyan House in the evening. Parlor cars run through between the mountains and Saratoga.

Hotels.

The charge at the large mountain-houses is $4.00 to $4.50 per day. From this price there is generally a discount to persons who make a long stay. At the smaller hotels the price for transient guests

is from $2.00 to $3.00 a day, with a more moderate rate by the week. At the boarding-houses, of which a list, with prices, is given hereafter, the price of board is from $5.00 a week upwards, depending on the rooms.

Clothing.

We cannot too strongly recommend the necessity, to the tourist, of sufficient and water-proof clothing. The weather is so uncertain among the mountains, that it is well to be prepared to defy the elements. The coolness of the atmosphere, especially in the evenings or on the summits of the mountains, renders extra clothing necessary to the enjoyment of the situation. Sudden showers are by no means uncommon; and water-proofs and overcoats will often render one independent of the surroundings, and enable him to enjoy the scenery, whatever aspect the face of the sky may wear.

GUIDE.

The Mountain Region.

AFTER having given this preliminary view of the different approaches to the White Mountains, we propose to present a particular view of the Mountain region. After this is completed, we will give a more detailed account of the different routes before mentioned. We shall thus be enabled to give a greater symmetry to the whole book than could be obtained by first giving the routes *to*, and then *through*, the region to be visited. As the various roads approach the Mountains at different

points, we shall also avoid much needless repetition. The size of the book will thus be diminished, while its convenience for consultation will be greatly increased.

We will commence, then, at Gorham, N. H., on the eastern side of the Mountains.

GORHAM is a thriving village, which has been built up on the banks of the Androscoggin by the business which the railroad and the hotel have brought. The ALPINE HOUSE is a new and substantial hotel, erected on the site of the old house which was burned in 1872. It is one of the best furnished and most comfortable hotels in the mountains, and is kept by W. F. and C. P. Milliken, proprietors of the GLEN.

Gorham is ninety miles from Portland, eight from the Glen House, sixteen from the summit of Mt. Washington; altitude, 800 feet.

The Alpine House is situated in a valley at the junction of the Androscoggin and Peabody Rivers. The valley is 800 feet above the sea. The breadth of it is so great, that the air is more dry, pure, and bracing than in the more narrow passes directly under the lofty summits, where many of the larger public-houses are placed. On this account, it has often been found more grateful and propitious to invalids who are advised to try the mountain atmosphere. Mails are received every day from Montreal, and twice a day by railroad from Boston and Portland. There is also a telegraph sta-

tion connecting with Portland, and a line over Mt. Washington, via the Glen House.

The scenery immediately around the Alpine House, in the Gorham village, when the proper points are sought for enjoying it, is very interesting. It is the only point from which the beauty of the range of Moriah, Carter, and the Imp, can be seen to advantage. Mt. Carter is about 5,000 feet in height. The base from which it rises being much lower than the level of the Franconia Notch, the summit of Carter is really higher, as seen from Gorham, than Mt. Lafayette, the highest of the Franconia range, is from the lovely Echo Lake, near the Profile House. And there are few more charming spectacles among the mountains than the heavy shadows that are tangled in the deep-cut stairways of Mt. Carter, contrasted with the soft lights that lie on its steep, unbroken forests in a clear summer afternoon. Mt. Moriah, some 200 feet lower than Mt. Carter, is remarkable for the rolling, billowy lines that flow from its dome along its huge mass to the valley. It is, perhaps, the most graceful in its outline of any of the larger New Hampshire hills. The true position from which to detect its beauty and appreciate its height is at the bend of the Androscoggin, near "Lary's," about a mile above the Alpine House. If the visitor will take this walk just before a clear sunset, he will see the whole ridge bathed in the richest purple — a sight that is one of the most agreeable rewards of a mountain journey. Only the Mountains on the westerly side of the Peabody River

VIEW OF CARTER AND IMP MOUNTAINS FROM GORHAM.

are visible from the hotel, owing to the hill immediately in front of the house. The trees, however, have been cut away on a portion of it, so that the summit of Mt. Madison now peers down into the val-

ley through the gap. This is the only one of the group standing guard about Mt. Washington visible from this point, though most fascinating views of the range may be obtained by a short walk.

The lower mountain that stands between Moriah and Carter is called the Imp.

The noble chain of hills to the north-west of the Alpine House is known as the Pilot range. The lines they cut against a clear and burning evening sky are very charming. To the east and south-east, Gorham is walled in by the stalwart and brawny Androscoggin hills. The noblest of these is Mt. Hayes, directly behind the Alpine House. Its name was given in honor of Mrs. Hayes, who was once associated as landlady in the management of the hotel, and who is gratefully remembered by all guests who became acquainted with her. The mountain stands now the noblest external monument to her memory.

The first thing which travellers usually wish to know, when they arrive in Gorham, is the distance to Mt. Washington, and the time and method of making the ascent. The base of Mt. Washington is at the distance of eight miles from the railroad station at Gorham. Stages are in waiting, at every train, to convey passengers to the Glen House, which is situated at this point. The ascent of the mountain, since the completion of the carriage road to the summit, is most commonly made in light, covered wagons. Those who prefer horseback riding can still make the ascent in that way over a most excellent road. Which-

ever way may be preferred, parties can start from either hotel. If travellers are in a hurry to reach the Glen House, and prefer to start from that point, they ride in stages eight miles to that hotel, and take horses or carriages there. The landlord of the Alpine House also keeps a stable of excellent mountain horses and carriages in connection with his hotel. If travellers desire, therefore, they can have a wagon from Gorham, be driven to the base of the mountain, and with the same wagon and horses, make the ascent, and stay at the Glen House when they descend, or ride back at once to the Alpine House. The road is precisely the same, and the expense of ascending the mountain the same, in whichever way the excursion is made. It is well to know, however, that conveyance is furnished from Gorham as well as from the Glen; for it sometimes happens that travellers arrive in Gorham by the eleven o'clock forenoon train from Portland, who would like to make the ascent of Mt. Washington that day, and return to Portland or go on to Montreal the next morning. This is almost always practicable, and has often been done from Gorham. By taking a wagon from the Alpine House, the base of Mt. Washington is reached more quickly than by stage; the ascent is made in the afternoon, and the conveyance is in waiting to return the passenger, as soon as he descends, to the Alpine House again.

But if travellers are not in a great hurry, they should certainly make their plans to see the striking

scenery that is offered near the Alpine House. No point in the whole mountain region presents more attractions within reach of a short and delightful wagon drive, a pleasant horseback ride up a bridle path, or a tolerably easy mountain-scramble. The first of these excursions to which we will call attention is that to

The Lead Mine Bridge.

The name is derived from an abandoned lead mine about six miles below Gorham, on the eastern bank of the Androscoggin, in Shelburne. The bridge is about four miles from the Alpine House, and can be easily reached in three quarters of an hour. The proper time to visit it is in the latter part of a summer afternoon, when the golden light is on the meadows, and the long shadows are falling athwart the mountains. There is no spot in the whole mountain region where the beauty of the river is joined so charmingly to the majesty of the hills. No river view can be more fascinating than that of the noble Androscoggin breaking around emerald islands with clean sandy shores, sweeping around the base of a lofty cliff, and joining its parted currents again into one strong tide just above the bridge where one stands. And then, a few miles distant, enthroned over the narrow valley, as though the stream flowed directly from their bases, rises the heavy dome of Mt. Washington, in company with the clear-cut, exquisite pyramid of Madison, with the crest of Adams rising directly behind it.

The height of the noblest mountains is never appre-

ciated by going close to their base, if they are foreshortened by ridges intervening between the eye and the supreme summits. The Lead Mine Bridge is just far enough away from the White Hills to allow their height to make its true impression. And whoever sees Mt. Madison thus, in a clear afternoon, will recall the impression it makes, as perhaps the loveliest picture which the White Mountain journey leaves in the memory. Three hours from the Alpine House will give ample time for the excursion. Teams and drivers are always in readiness for the accommodation of guests. By taking the day, or even the whole afternoon, for the excursion, one cannot do better than to prolong the ride to Shelburne and Gilead along the Androscoggin. Some fine views of the mountains may be thus obtained.

Next among the privileges of Gorham we must speak of a drive from the Alpine House to

Randolph Hill.

This hill is on the road to the villages of Randolph and Jefferson, and is about five miles from the hotel. There is no climbing to be done; the wagon is driven directly to the summit, which is about six hundred feet higher than the hotel, and the road is excellent. By this drive one is taken directly to the northerly base of Madison and Adams. He sees the whole northerly wall of the Mt. Washington range from crest to valley. The height is far greater than the wall of the Crawford Notch. There is no point where, standing so near,

any of the White Mountains look so lofty and so grand. Certainly no valley view can be gained of Mt. Washington that compares with the grandeur of Adams from this position. The sense of height, the tremendous mass, the grand natural masonry, the rich forest verdure, the silence, the twin outlines of the two mountains, and the symmetry of the gray and blasted peaks that rise and face each other above the vast wilderness that clothes their sides, combine to make an impression on the eye and soul that years will not efface. Here, too, is peculiarly felt that harmony and symmetry of all mountain outlines, when massed together, those of the smaller hills being reproduced by the higher summits, all pointing to one common centre of towering preëminence. A traveller should not fail to take this view, if possible; and no discomfort is connected with the excursion. An hour is sufficient for the drive to Randolph Hill from the Alpine House, and three quarters of an hour for the return.

We must call attention, next, to

Berlin Falls.

Those who love water-views and cataract-scenery will say that these Falls are the richest of all the attractions that invest Gorham. They are situated six miles from the Alpine House. But the road that leads to them is excellent; the drive is taken in an hour; and the scenery on the way, along the west bank of the Androscoggin, is continually noble, wild, and stimulating. The mountains seem to overhang the stream,

and add greatly to the interest of the drive. It is no rivulet or mountain cascade one visits at Berlin. The whole Androscoggin, fed from a branch of Lake Umbagog, and never low even in a drought, like the Upper Connecticut, pours here down a rocky gateway. It is a long, swift rapid, broken here and there by a direct and powerful fall. In the course of a mile the river descends nearly two hundred feet. The road winds directly by the river, and there is no hard clambering or wet walking in the excursion.

The first view as one alights from the wagon reveals the river for a quarter of a mile flecked with little white caps at the uppermost rapids, then plunging in a winding rush of foam, then calmed again, and flowing with its ruffled caps towards Gorham. After taking this general look, which is very fascinating, we must select

points for observing the heavier pitches of the river, and estimating the force of the cataract. We must go down upon a jutting rock that faces the sweeping flood, and see the last leap of the mad tide over a huge boulder, before it settles into common rapids again; we must go up, and stand on the bridge that crosses the narrowest gully, and watch the foam sweep underneath like a race-horse — the backwater from each side overlaying the central current, so that it rushes in wedge shape, through the gorge; especially must we go last above the bridge, and sit down upon the rocks, to watch, at leisure, the first and deepest plunge of the river. Although the bridge is very near, one has no conception, in looking from it, of the grandeur of this portion of the fall. One can sit by it for an hour with increasing delight. Visitors have said that it repaid for the cost and time of a visit to the mountains, and that all the other scenery was extra. The power of this part of the fall is so satisfactory, the quantity of water so great, and the flood of foam that sweeps away from it so full of life, that we have never been able to recall, while sitting there, aught that surpasses it, in the suggestion of power, but the English fall at Niagara. We quote the declaration of a prominent poet of New England, given with emphasis on the spot once, in our hearing, when we say that it is better worth visiting than the Falls of St. Anthony.

There is a hotel at Berlin called the Mount Forist House, so that visitors can now have the cool parts of the day, and especially a full-moonlight even-

ing, for wandering around the banks, and enjoying the rapids and plunges of the river.

The trip to Berlin Falls is a pleasant forenoon or afternoon drive. On the way, the Alpine Cascades may also be visited. These are about three and a half miles from Gorham. There is a bridge for foot-passengers across the Androscoggin, and a walk of a quarter of a mile will bring one to the Falls. In high water, these are well worth the small fee that is demanded by the owner of the path.

One needs to visit Berlin Falls several times, and study the grand forms and summits of the outer White Mountains, which tower, with a symmetry that does not disturb their solid and serious majesty, a little to the west. The mountain panorama, visible from the road just above the falls, is one of the most inspiring to be found in the New Hampshire tour.

It would be among the richest joys of a September visit to Gorham to give the heart of one of its clear bracing days to an excursion along the Androscoggin, dining on the rocks above the bridge; and, returning towards sunset, to face for the most of the way the great White Mountain range, stained with a glorious brown light, and the range of Moriah and Carter lifting purple peaks and ridges against the blue southern sky. Here, too, the drive may be prolonged, with great advantage, some four miles to Milan. At this distance from the base, the effects of the foreshortening are removed; and Mt. Washington, which, at the falls, was concealed by Madison and Adams, is now visible above them, manifesting its supremacy.

But besides the attractions to be reached by wagon rides, there are excursions to be made from the Alpine House, on horseback or on foot, that must be spoken of.

The Ascent of Mount Moriah

is the first to be named. There was formerly an excellent bridle-path to the summit, and a large log-cabin for protection against a sudden shower. For the past few years, however, the carriage road up Mt. Washington has attracted the greater part of the travel, so that the path has not been reöpened. The mountain is 4,700 feet in height. It can still be reached on foot, and the bridle-path can easily be reöpened. The ascent will furnish a very charming excursion for those who care to undergo the fatigue. Now and then, through the trees, a glimpse is gained of a grand coliseum of pines on the steep and crescent sides of a near mountain, from which a ravine separates you. Now and then you come upon some bare ledge or shoulder, from which you look down the valley of the Androscoggin for miles, and admire the forethought of Nature in leaving this easy track, among these billowy ridges of land, for the Grand Trunk Railway. Soon you plunge into the woods again, and are borne up and up by the panting horse till the shrubs begin to grow scanty, and suddenly you are on the desolate and jagged peak. What a view! The whole region seems thrown into wildest confusion. The eye must travel far to the south-west to rest upon any extent of level land. Northern New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine are a

vast panorama of solid surges. On the west the distant view is barred by the heavy forms of the great White Mountain range proper.

In this respect a visit to Mt. Moriah is more interesting than to Mt. Washington; for here Mt. Washington is part of the landscape. Its height and mass, and the grandeur of its fellow-peaks, can be relatively measured, as they cannot when one stands on their ridges.

But it may be that the traveller does not care to make an ascent of a mountain so high as this, in addition to the ascent of Mt. Washington, or instead of that ascent. We will call attention, therefore, to

Mount Surprise,

and the charm of the prospect that is opened from it. This mountain is directly in front of the Alpine House. It is, in fact, one of the spurs of Mt. Moriah, and is about 1,200 feet in height. The bridle-path to the top is not difficult at all in the ascent. Good walkers can gain the crest, which is about two miles and a half from the hotel, without trouble in an hour and a half, and can return in half that time. It is an easy and charming horseback excursion for ladies. And the view which the summit offers is different in character from any that we recall in the mountain region. It suggests the marvellous picture of the Notch seen from Mt. Willard. The height of Mt. Surprise is about the same as that of Mt. Willard; and it commands the great cleft between Mt. Carter and the White Moun-

tains, through which the Peabody River flows, as Mt. Willard commands the Notch and the infant Saco.

The top of Mt. Surprise is worth visiting, apart from the view it furnishes, for the revelation it offers of the savage ruin which fire and winds can work on the hills. Scores of great tree-trunks, stripped, charred, and half consumed, are heaped and twisted over an acre or two of the crest and side of the hill, in impressive confusion. The whole scene is the hieroglyphic autobiography, it may be, of the destructive partnership of July lightning and January gale. The chief payment for the ascent, however, is not this broad "charcoal sketch" of ravage, but the sight, gained amid that dingy desolation, of the grandest portions of the White Mountain ridge. The highest summits of the range rise directly against the eye. There is no intervening ridge or obstacle. You look down 1,200 feet to the bed of the Peabody, which is fed from the great range, and up along the unbroken forests to the peak of Mt. Madison, the crest of Adams that overtops it, and, at the south-west of these, the summit of Jefferson, and the mass of Mt. Washington. There is no other eminence where one can get so near to these monarchs, and receive such an impression of their sublimity, the vigor of their outlines, their awful solitude, and the extent of the wilderness which they bear upon their slopes. The scene is so wild and glorious, and the cost of labor to gain it so slight, that it is a pity any visitants of the eastern side of the mountains should fail to add it to their treasures of memory. And besides this

view of the great range, the outlook from Mt. Surprise over the mountains of the North, and up the valley through which the Androscoggin twists its way, is very grand. On horseback from the Alpine House, the whole jaunt can be made in two hours and a half, with ample time for the Summit.

We have already spoken of

Mount Hayes,

which rises just behind the Alpine House, beyond the Androscoggin. There is now a bridle-path to the top of this eminence, and it should be celebrated as affording the grandest landscape view of Madison, Adams, and Washington, to be obtained in New Hampshire. It is also an easy pedestrian excursion, and no one who visits Gorham, and who has a love of mountain scrambles, should fail to make the ascent of Mt. Hayes. About two hours from the base will be sufficient to gain the top. The picture from the summit cannot be sufficiently praised. The view of Adams and Madison, sweeping from the uplands of Randolph, will never be forgotten. And Mt. Washington shows no such height, or grandeur, when seen from any other point. Mt. Washington does not show its superior height, or look grander in form, than the associated peaks, from any position in the valleys near Gorham and the Glen. But from Mt. Hayes its supereminence and majesty are caught and appreciated. That Summit seems to be the chair set by Providence at the right distance and angle to observe and enjoy its ma-

jesty, its symmetry, and the proud grace with which its "airy citadel" is sustained against the sky. And by way of dessert to this substantial feast of mountain grandeur, a most charming view of the curves of the Androscoggin for twenty miles, of its exquisite islands, and of the meadows which it threads, is given from Mt. Hayes.

There is another pedestrian excursion possible from Gorham, of which we should not fail to speak. We mean the

Ascent of Mount Madison,

from the foot of Randolph Hill, and a visit to the northerly ridge and summits of the White Mountain group. To those who love mountain climbing, and the wildest scenery which the hills can exhibit, no more tempting expedition than this can be proposed. Several parties made this excursion in 1857, sometimes camping out in a ravine, or on the ridge. Their reports of the grandeur and magnificence of the views that rewarded their toil are very inspiring. A company of strong pedestrians, starting from the Alpine House, Gorham, early in the morning, and riding to the base of Mt. Madison, at the foot of Randolph Hill, could ascend Mt. Madison, pass over its summit, around or over the sharp pyramid of Adams, over Jefferson, between the humps of Mt. Clay, and reach the house on the top of Mt. Washington, before sunset.

Such a route would lie among and over the largest mountains of the range. Between Madison and Adams

the party would see the noblest outlines of rocky precipice and crest which the whole range can furnish, for they would stand directly between the steep pinnacles of those noble hills, that spring from the ridge. They could climb to the sharp apex of Adams. They would see the glorious picture of Washington, that starts out in crossing from Adams to Jefferson. The long easterly slope is shown from its base in the Pinkham forests; the cone towers sheer out of "The Gulf of Mexico;" and every rod of the carriage-road is visible from the Ledge to the Summit House.

And the route brings into view all the great ravines of the range, except "Tuckerman's." One will see the long and narrow gully between Madison and Adams, and the tremendous hollow of Adams itself on the north, which was climbed for the first time, in 1857, by a party formed by the now universally lamented Starr King, and which is called by the guides "King's Ravine." He will see the precipitous gulf between Adams and Jefferson on the south-east; the deep-cut gorge in Jefferson on the north-west, whose bones of gray cliff, breaking bare through the steep verdure, will be remembered as the most picturesque of all the scenes which the day gives. He will wind around the chasm between Jefferson and Clay, divided from the savage "Gulf of Mexico" by a spur of Jefferson that runs out toward the Glen House. And he will gaze off with delight upon the long rolling braces that prop Mt. Pleasant, and Franklin, and the tawny Monroe — the boundaries of the ravines that one sees, in riding to

Mt. Washington from the Notch, over the Crawford bridle-path.

A path through the forest of Mt. Madison to the summit, from the foot of Randolph Hill, has been "blazed" by Mr. Gordon, of Gorham. Mr. Gordon, now deceased, was a most admirable guide, and his memory will long be cherished by those whom he has served. Mr. Calhaine, who owns a farm in the Peabody valley, near where the view of the Imp is to be had, will be found a worthy wearer of Mr. Gordon's mantle. Travellers can easily learn at the Alpine House how to engage him for any service. Among other excursions that may be made is the ascent of Mt. Washington over Adams, clambering up the ravine.

Routes to the Notch.

Since the completion of the carriage road on the east and the Railroad on the west side of the Mountains, nearly all the travel passes over Mt. Washington, and comparatively few persons go by the old stage routes. These, however, have not lost their charm, and should be mentioned here, so that if the traveller has made the ascent of Mt. Washington, and does not care to pass over the summit, but prefers the pleasures of the mountain views from below, he may not be deprived of the trip by ignorance.

There are two roads from Gorham to the Notch. One passes through the Glen, the Pinkham Notch, Jackson, and then up the valley of the Saco, in Bartlett,

through the Notch to the Crawford House. The distance from Gorham is forty-three miles. The stages start from the Glen House, and leave about eight o'clock in the morning. To go by this route, one must leave Gorham the night before. We shall speak of this route more at length hereafter.

The Cherry Mountain Road

is the other route to the Notch. The distance is thirty-two miles. There is no regular stage, but teams can be hired at the Alpine House, if desired. The distance to the Twin Mountain House is thirty miles.

This has always been a favorite route, for the scenery along almost the whole line of the road is grander than by any other stage route among the mountains. It takes in the glorious spectacle from Randolph Hill, of which we have spoken. It commands every slope and summit of the Mt. Washington range from the north; and for some twelve miles of the way they are all in view at once, with no intervening hills to break the impression of their majesty. Such a view can be gained on no other road; and the forms of the mountains on the northerly slope are grander than on the southerly side. From the village of Jefferson, through which this Cherry Mountain road runs, not only is every one of the Great White Mountain group visible, but also the Franconia Mountains, the side of the Willey Mountain in the Notch, the line of the nearer Green Mountains beyond the Connecticut, — in fact, a panorama of

hills, to the north-west and north, almost as fine as the prospect in that direction from the summit of Mt. Washington. To see this picture would richly repay a drive from Gorham and return, if the traveller did not desire to pass on to the north. The noblest part of the view can be had, without leaving the wagon, from a hill in Jefferson, about seventeen miles from the Alpine House. At this point, and commanding a noble view of the whole White and Franconia range, is situated a well-conducted hotel, called the Waumbeck House, kept by J. R. CROCKER. The charges here are very reasonable. It is a favorite place of resort for those who are desirous of obtaining pure mountain air. Starr King Mountain, in the rear of the house, is easily ascended. From the piazza of the hotel, with a glass, people on the summit of Mt. Washington can be distinctly seen. The distance from the hotel to the White Mountain Notch is seventeen miles; to the Profile House, by the way of Whitefield and Bethlehem, twenty-eight miles; to the Glen House by the road around the base of Madison, twenty miles; to Littleton, twenty miles. One should be sure to engage the carriage to go by the way of Jefferson, so as to obtain the fine view from the Waumbeck House.

Should one prefer to go to Franconia from the Alpine House, instead of riding over the Cherry Mountain road to the Notch, an arrangement can easily be made for conveyance. The road is the same with that just described, till it reaches a point a short distance beyond Jefferson, where it diverges into the valley

of the Israel River. Then, passing through the pleasant, cleanly, and thrifty town of Whitefield, it climbs the hills that rise to the plateau of Bethlehem. Leaving the Alpine House in the morning, the traveller can take his dinner and his noontide rest at the Waumbeck House, noticed above, in Jefferson, and then spend the hours of the long summer afternoon in the charming ride. Passing through Bethlehem an hour or two before dark, he can reach the Profile House early in the evening, where the weary but thoroughly delighted guest can find a hospitable welcome and abundant cheer.

The return ride from Franconia and the Notch to Gorham, by Cherry Mountain, is, in some respects, superior to the ride the other way. From Jefferson to Gorham, it is certainly more grand than when facing in the other direction.

For several miles we front the four highest mountains of the ridge, and seem to be riding into them, with no chance of a detour. How massive they appear as we draw nearer and nearer! The summits seem to be of about equal height, and instead of presenting thin and gullied sides, all their lines run outward towards us, and are firmly braced in the valley, as though they were immense forts, once upheaved and buttressed with granite ridges, to defend an army of a larger mould than our race against a siege. The Notch itself is hardly more majestic than this quadruple fortification, which glooms and darkens more and more upon the eye as we ride nearer to it, and which springs out of a wild forest as yet almost unvisited by man.

For several miles the vision lasts. Then Washington drops away from the company, and we are left with Jefferson, Adams, and Madison. Next, Jefferson withdraws, and we ride by the base of the remaining two. Soon their grand lines untwist, and their rocks seem, as it were, to be dishevelled, till we gain the summit of Randolph Hill, overlooking Gorham, and find that, by inexplicable magic, they have been transformed into superb symmetry again, and hide from the delighted eye every trace of those glorious compeers that had joined with them in threatening the valley of Randolph, a few miles behind.

This route can also be taken from the Glen House by a road passing across the Peabody River, along the base of Madison, and joining the road from Gorham just beyond Randolph Hill. An excellent excursion for one who desired to approach the Crawford House from the south, through the Notch, would be to spend a day in a trip from Gorham to the Waumbeck House, back as far as the road here alluded to, and thence to the Glen. The best view of the north side of the mountains would thus be obtained, and yet the advantage of the approach to the Crawford House up through the Notch not be lost.

The Mt. Adams House is on this road, about twelve miles from Gorham. It is a small hotel, accommodating about fifty guests, at about the rates charged by the boarding-houses in the vicinity. It can also be reached from Lancaster, being only thirteen miles distant. Starr King says of the view from this spot, "The forms of

the mountains are nobler on this side than on the side towards the old Fabyan Place, near the Notch. The largest members of the chain are the most prominent here. The ridge is not so lank, and its braces run out with more vigor; the ravines are more powerfully furrowed; and Mt. Washington is far better related to the chain."

And now let us turn to

The Glen.

This charming spot is situated eight miles, as we have said, from Gorham. The drive, taken as it usually is in the morning or evening, is one of great attraction. The ascent is gradual, with no long hills, and the road winds, for the greater part of the way, along the easterly bank of the Peabody River, which, always within hearing, is frequently within sight. Soon after leaving Gorham the burly form of Madison bursts upon the view, apparently barring all further progress, while the Moriah range towers up on the left. The changing mountain forms furnish a continual study. Washington and Adams come into view before reaching the Glen, and the carriage road is visible from the point where it emerges from the woods almost to the very summit. About two miles and a half from the Glen is a bridge over the Peabody River, which one must cross if he wishes to see

The Imp.

This name has been given to a peak of the Moriah

Mountain, from the marked resemblance which the summit, seen from a point near a farm house, about half a mile from the road, on the opposite side of the river, bears to a grotesque human countenance. The afternoon is the best time for the view. If your party command the team, you can make the view a pleasant accompaniment to the ride from Gorham to the Glen; or the visit can be made directly from the Glen House.

The Glen House

has been recently enlarged, so that it is now one of the largest and grandest hotels of the White Mountain region. In fact, a new hotel, equal in size to the one that formerly occupied the spot, has been built and attached to the old house. The office and receiving hall occupy a spacious apartment between the old and the new. The parlor is a magnificent room, 100 by 50 feet, elegantly furnished. The dining room is a fine hall, in which all the 600 guests, which the hotel will now easily accommodate, may dine at once without trouble or inconvenience. From the balcony of the hotel may be had an uninterrupted view of the highest summits in New England, while the parties ascending and descending the rugged ledges of Mt. Washington may be watched by the aid of a glass. The whole front of the house, facing the mountains and the rushing Peabody River, contains rooms that are unusually attractive, while those on the other side are also favored with remarkable and pleasing mountain views.

This Hotel is now owned by W. F. & C. R. Milliken,

and, like the other hotels which are located on the high elevations, has for many years been celebrated as affording a complete exemption from the autumnal catarrh, or hay-fever. Mr. Charles Eastman keeps a store in the hotel, a favorite resort for old habitués, at which are for sale books, periodicals, photographs, and such other articles as are likely to be needed by the tourist. The hotel is open till Oct. 1. The price for transient guests is $4.00 per day, with a reduction by the week, or in June and September.

The Western Union Telegraph Company has lines over Mt. Washington, and connecting with Centre Harbor, Conway, Crawford House, and Profile House, with a station in the hotel. All the principal places in the mountains are now connected by telegraph, and are in direct communication with the large cities.

The Glen House stands on a plateau, 830 feet above the Gorham valley, and 1,632 feet above tide water at Portland, in the midst of a magnificent mountain bowl. Behind it bend the thin high ridges of Mt. Carter and its spurs, 3,000 feet in height, and green with unbroken forests to their crests. On the south-west, one sees the steep, bony braces of Mt. Washington, running off, one behind the other, into the Pinkham forests, and towards Jackson. Directly in front are the outworks and huge shoulder of Mt. Washington itself, and behind this heavy shoulder, on a retreating ridge, the pinnacle where the Summit House stands. Associated directly with Mt. Washington, and bending around to the north-west and north, are Mt. Clay, rising over the

huge "Gulf of Mexico;" the stout, square-shouldered Jefferson; and the symmetrical, sharp, and splendid pyramid of Adams, with its peak so pointed that it looks unscalable. This mountain is by far the grandest of all in shape and impressiveness. And next to this, with lines running eastward, is Mt. Madison, which completes the staff of Washington. Thus four of the highest summits of the White Hills are, as we have said, in full view, directly in front of the hotel in the Glen. The height of Mt. Washington is 6,285 feet; Mt. Clay, 5,400; Mt. Jefferson, 5,700; Mt. Adams, 5,800; Mt. Madison, 5,361.

No public house among the mountains is situated so near the Mt. Washington range as this. There are views of the mountains to be had at a little greater distance that will give more pleasure to the artistic sense; but no view of the chief White Mountain range can be had from a hotel that is comparable with this which the piazza of the Glen House offers.

The best time to approach it is in the clear afternoon of a summer day, when the shadows fall soft and rich in the gorges and over the rugged slopes of the chain. Then the mountains look higher, and their grandeur is tempered with a mystic beauty. There is perpetual charm, too, in watching the play of the vapors around the cliffs and in the ravines on a misty and showery day in August. Now they will wrap a long mountain wall in a cold, gray mantle, to the base. Now they will break along a ridge, and reveal the harsh sides of a chasm, or the ramparts of a ridge, hanging seemingly

in the clouds. Soon they will thin away below for a mile, and show the green foreground softened by a moist veil. Next they will knot themselves into thick rolls, and then stretch themselves slowly into thin and sleazy textures. Once in a while they will lift themselves nearly to the summit of a ridge, and try to plunge down again,—really tiring the eye that watches them

Sink by compulsion and laborious flight;—

and sometimes they will break entirely around one of the mountains, Adams perhaps, and show it piercing the gray sky, apparently doubled in height by being seen isolated from its brother hills.

In May and early June the view from the Glen House is very charming. For then huge patches of snow lie on the upper slopes of the range. But in October the spectacle is generally more fascinating than at any other season of the year. Especially when the traveller can see, as we once saw there, the summits stained with snow, rising over forests dyed in orange, brown, and crimson,—and delicate curtains of mists drooping from the sky, and swaying gently along the line of the crests,—will he be charmed with the scene.

Stage Routes.

Stages leave the Glen House to connect with all the trains on the Grand Trunk Railway, at Gorham, and also morning and afternoon for North Conway, to connect with the trains on the Portland and Ogdensburgh, and the Great Falls and Conway Railroads. Persons desiring to go to the Notch connect at Glen Station with the railroad.

The larger number of persons desiring to go to the Notch now go over Mt. Washington, descending by the Railroad. Baggage wagons accompany the passenger wagons.

The chief object of interest now at the Glen House, as well as the grand highway of the mountain travel, is

The Ascent of Mount Washington.

Notwithstanding the completion of the Railroad, the ascent of Mt. Washington by the carriage road is still popular. The distance from the base of the mountain, in front of the Glen House, to the summit, is eight miles. The carriage road, a triumph of engineering skill, is now completed to the very summit, and furnishes the best road in the whole mountain region. It was commenced in 1855, by a chartered corporation, under the management of D. O. Macomber, and was finished as far as the Ledge, or four miles from the base, in 1856. In 1861 the road was finished to the summit and opened for travel. The average grade is twelve feet in one hundred, and the steepest grade in any part, which, strange to say, is about two miles and a half from the base, is sixteen feet in one hundred for a short distance. It is a thoroughly built road in every particular. The bridle-path formerly went up the mountain side in almost a straight line, while the road winds around the ledge and up the mountain side, making nearly double the distance. But in no part is there any difficulty or danger in the ascent. No more discomfort is experienced than in the same amount of carriage riding upon any of the

mountain roads. The road was surveyed and laid out by Mr. Charles H. V. Cavis, Civil Engineer, who was the active Superintendent of the Carriage Road Company till 1857, when the work was suspended on account of financial embarrassments.

The tariff of tolls on the carriage road is as follows:

For every person on foot,	$0.32
" " " on horseback,	.80
" " " in carriages,	.80
" " sulky with one horse,	.64
" " carriage with 4 wheels for 2 persons,	.64
" " " with 2 horses and 4 wheels,	.96
" " " with 4 horses,	1.28

Carriages leave the Glen House for the Summit morning and afternoon, connecting with the trains on the railway. The fare up and back is $5; fare down is $3. This includes the tolls on the carriage-road.

For the first four miles of the way the road winds among the trees of the forest, which cover the sides of all the mountains, permitting only occasional glimpses of the mountain world around. At what is called "The Ledge," the road emerges from the forest, and the glories of the ascent here begin. From this point the road winds along the very verge of the deep ravine between Washington, and Clay, and Jefferson, the upper end of which is called the Great Gulf. Leaving this, it passes to the easterly side of the mountain, overlooking the valley of the Peabody and Ellis Rivers,

and furnishing a most charming view of the far-famed Saco valley, with a distant sight of the Great Gulf. One here feels a decided sensation of being in the upper air. The wind sweeps almost unobstructed across the mountain, and below or above one may see carriages creeping along the path. The charm of the bridle-path from the White Mountain Notch to Mt. Washington lies in the passage over the tops of four lower summits of the ridge, each one a little higher than the last, and in the view thus given of ravines that sweep off each way from the horse path to the base of the range. From the Glen the ascent is made directly up Mt. Washington itself all the way. Down the great ravine already spoken of a most surprising view is offered of Jefferson, Adams, and Madison. They sweep up from the enormous gulfs at the right hand of the path, and are visible from base to crown.

There is no view, perhaps, so exciting as this, on the path we have just spoken of from the Crawford Notch. Many will think that this spectacle, which grows grander and grander as they rise, is more inspiring than the prospect from the peak above. One learns, in looking at those great forms, the decided difference there is in genus between a mountain and a hill. The eye is fascinated by the colors of these rugged monarchs — the varied verdure of their lower forests, their tawny shoulders, the purple and gray of their bare ledges, the dim green of their peaks. One will notice, also, the charming lines which the torrents have torn upon their surfaces; for when we look across a

gulf, or from a little distance below, upon a steep mountain, we find that it is the wrath of the freshets that gives them their finest lines of expression and character. And if the day is blessed with clouds that drift over the mountains, the eye will find unspeakable pleasure in watching the shadows that will droop swiftly from cone to base, and in following the incessant flushes and frolics of light and shade that robe them with ever-changing charm.

But to appreciate the beauty and majesty of these mountains that are in view from the Glen House and Gorham path, one should see them late on a bright summer afternoon, either in ascending or descending Mt. Washington. Then the sun is behind them, sinking in the west. Then the richest contrasts of color, of light, and of shadow are revealed. The summit and shoulders of Mt. Jefferson glow with rich orange hues. The slanting light streams between the peaks and burnishes the sides of their ragged pyramids. The "Gulf of Mexico" gapes with more terror as the shadows from its walls, that measure more than a thousand feet, fall far into its base. And as the sun falls nearer and nearer the horizon, the sharp shadows of Mt. Adams and of the neighboring peaks stream down upon the Glen House valley, and march up the opposite slopes of Carter, to dislodge its yellow light that melts into purple, and to cover them with dusk. The noon time is the poorest of all seasons to be on the ridge of Mt. Washington; for then there are no shadows. And it is a pity that the great majority of

those who ascend the range see the scenery during the most unpoetic hours, near midday.

From the summit of "The Ledge," where the view of the three great mountains we have been speaking of is first gained, the path rises over a series of receding plateaus. Each seems to be the summit, as one looks from below. It is on account of this structure of the cone of Mt. Washington, that it fails to show its real height until one gets far enough off from it in the valleys to escape the effect of foreshortening.

During the last part of the ascent one will see the pile of stones that marks the spot where Miss Bourne, of Kennebunk, Me., died, near midnight, in September, 1855, and where her uncle and cousin kept sad watch till dawn. They started in the afternoon, without a guide, to walk to the summit. Night and fog overtook them, and the young lady perished in the chill and darkness among the rocks, but a few rods from the house they were in search of. Quite near, also, is the shelving rock, beneath which the remains of an elderly gentleman from Wilmington, Del., were found in July, 1857. He had attempted to ascend the mountain alone, one afternoon in August of the year before, and must have been overtaken by storm, and cold, and darkness, near the summit. His watch, and some bank bills in his vest pocket, were found uninjured; though most of the body, and even part of the skeleton, were gone. A little further below, and at the left of the ascending path, the ledge is visible where Dr. Benjamin Ball, of Boston, passed two nights in the

snow and sleet of an October storm, alone, without food or covering. He was rescued when nature was about sinking. His feet were frozen, and he could not speak. How his life was preserved in such exposure is a marvel. It is equally remarkable that, though his feet were severely frozen, they were saved.

Since the completion of the carriage road to the summit, however, there seems to be no possibility of any such accident. In the fall of 1862, soon after the first snow, Mr. Thorn, the clerk at the Summit House, made the ascent in a sleigh. A winter visit to the top of Mt. Washington would hardly come within the purposes or desires of the pleasure tourist. Yet at present it can be safely and even agreeably made in the early part of the season. A sleighing party to the Summit is by no means without its pleasures, to those adventurous enough to engage in it. Before the completion of the carriage road such an excursion was attended with great difficulty and danger. The first winter visit to the Summit was made December 7, 1858, by a sheriff, who desired to serve a writ in one of the suits that have arisen out of the disputed title to the most elevated land in New England. The party found the houses covered with snow; and succeeded in forcing an entrance with great difficulty. "The walls and all the furniture were draped with some four inches of frost, and the air was biting in the extreme. It was like a tomb, and a lamp was necessary in this snow cavern to enable the party to distinguish the surrounding objects. As delay was dangerous in the extreme, and having per-

fected their legal duty, the two prepared to return. Upon emerging from the houses they beheld to the south-west a cloud, rapidly increasing in volume, and rolling on towards them. When first seen it was small in magnitude, but it increased in size with alarming velocity, soon spreading over the entire south. They knew it was a frost cloud, and that to be caught in its folds would probably be fatal, and they hastened to avoid it. They had just entered the woods, at the base of the ledge, when it came upon them. So icy and penetrating was its breath, that to have encountered its blinding, freezing power on the unprotected height, would have been to have perished with it as a pall to cover them."

Since the completion of the Railroad, on the opposite side of the Mountain, the Summit has been occupied as a station of the Meteorological Department of the United States Army, and observers have passed the entire winter there. They have experienced no unusual difficulty in making weekly visits to the country below. The wind has sometimes assailed them with a velocity of 100 miles per hour. The lowest point indicated by the thermometer, during the first year of observation, was —59° Farenheit. This extreme cold occurred at the same time with a high wind, which rendered it almost insupportable even indoors. The account of the first winter has been published and forms an interesting volume.

Now let us ascend the last part of the steep cone, and stand upon the Summit. The time used in making the journey from the base in the Glen to the peak is gen-

erally about three hours. It is often done in two hours and a half, and has been accomplished in less than two hours. What a stupendous view! A horizon of nearly six hundred miles bounds the prospect! The mountain peaks stand on every side as sentinels over the furrowed valleys of New England!

If the day is clear, one can see Monadnock loom, as a pale blue film, a hundred miles off on the south-west. Far in the east Katahdin is driven like a wedge into the sky. Westward the eye roams almost to the Catskills; northward into Canada, far beyond the sources of the Connecticut; southward, to the mouth of the Saco. In a clear morning or evening, if there is a silvery gleam on the south-eastern horizon, it tells that the sun is shining on the sea off Portland.

Nearer to us on the west towers the gloomy ridge of Franconia, subsiding towards the Merrimack. That flash now and then through the opaline southern air is from Winnipesaukee, the most exquisite jewel in the necklace of New England. On the near north the twin-domed Stratford mountains tower. Their barren pallor, seen through the uncertain air, counterfeits snow. The cloven Pinkham Pass lies directly beneath us, bending around to lovely North Conway. Over this last village we observe the drooping shoulders of Kearsarge, whose northern sides flow from the summit as softly as full folds of drapery fall from a ring. Mt. Crawford attracts attention by his singular knob-like crest; and near him, all the winding Bartlett hills stand up, guarding the shy beauty of the intervales. The long and solid "Pleasant Mountain" draws the

eye, set so squarely near the still silver of Lovewell's Pond. And farther south the dim, level, leopard-spotted land stretches wide to the horizon haze.

Of course it is unwise to attempt to describe such a view. It is the map of New England printed before us in glowing poetry. Those who look upon the sublime diorama for the first time, under favorable circumstances, are so oppressed by the novelty and grandeur, that they do not appreciate what they have seen till some days afterwards. Then it rises in memory, and becomes a perpetual treasure for "the mind's eye." No one should fail to make the ascent, if health is good. There is no danger worth calculating, and the fatigue that may be incurred is nothing to the spectacle that is offered. Especially are the temptations to ascend greater now to ladies and partial invalids, since such admirable accommodation is found in the hotel on the Summit.

The legal controversies which so long prevented the erection of a suitable house on the Summit have at last been fully settled. The old hotels, the "Tip-Top House" and the "Summit House," rough, uncouth structures, with low walls of coarse stone, still remain to remind one of the slow advances of civilization a mile above the sea. Yet they were welcomed as great boons when first erected. Prior thereto, there was no shelter for man or beast. Visitors, then as now, often passed through severe storms of cold rain; and the prospect, even if clear, afforded little delight to one almost perishing with cold. There could, of course, be no long waiting for a clearing-off.

Those who ascended Mt. Washington in those days can feelingly appreciate the protection that now awaits them. The carriages and the railway both land their passengers on the broad platform of the Mt. Washington House. This is a large, well-built, comfortable house, with a spacious parlor and other public rooms. It has rooms for about one hundred guests. Steam-pipes running through all the rooms dispel the cold and damp; so that the house, even in a storm, is as comfortable as those on lower levels. The dining-room is commodious and pleasant, and the table as well supplied as in any first-class hotel. Mrs. JOHN W. DODGE, who has been in charge of the house since it was first opened, is manager. The price for dinner is $1.50; and for supper, lodging, and breakfast, $4.50, or $6.00 per day. When it is considered that the expense of erecting and maintaining the house is far greater than that of buildings in less-exposed localities, and that every thing used in the house must be brought from below, the charge will not be found unreasonable.

As has already been suggested, the larger number of people travelling from one side to the other now pass over the Summit. The baggage is all checked at the railroad-station, and no difficulty is experienced in making the change. This saves a day's delay and a long stage-ride. A great many, too, remain over night on the Summit. This may be done in perfect comfort and safety, whatever the weather may be. Even if one has to wait for pleasant weather in order to fully enjoy the prospect, the delay has its advantages. Even a storm, with the sight of immense masses of fog driving by

with perhaps an occasional glimpse of sunlight above, while the whole of the earth below is wrapped in impenetrable mist, so that one can look upon a vast ocean of cloud, boiling and seething like a caldron, forms a picture, which, once seen, is not soon forgotten. A night there, in which one can see a clear sunset, a moonrise, and a sunrise, is a privilege that is well worth the attempt to gain. One appreciates the height of Mt. Washington more by looking up in the night to the mighty dome of stars, than by looking off and below in the day. Or, if the night is wild and stormy, the feeling one gains there of the tremendous forces amid which we are placed on this globe will more than atone for any uneasiness or discomfort.

If the night be clear, the gratification which one receives is unequalled by any experience of mountain travelling. The sunset is magnificent beyond description. The light is gradually softened during the afternoon, when the most exquisite views are obtained of all the surrounding country. As the sun slowly sinks in the west, the shadows of the mountains enlarge in proportions, and extend far and wide. The great pyramidal shadow of the Summit travels along the eastern landscape, gradually darkening green fields, pleasant lakes, winding rivers, and the snug hamlets that line their shores, till, reaching the horizon, the apex actually seems to lift itself into the haze. The line of ocean is now distinctly visible. The western mountains are glowing with golden light. The sun goes down in a blaze of glory. Then as the shadows deepen, the mists

begin to collect on the surface of every lake, and pond, and brook, till it seems as though each little sheet of water was blanketed and tucked in beneath its own coverlet of cloud, to spend the night in undisturbed repose. Soon the Great Gulf, the deep ravines on either side, are filled with vapor, which, accumulating every moment, come reaching up the slopes of the mountains, till all the hollows are full clear to the brim. Then the surrounding summits peer out, lifting their heads above the dense masses. It seems as though one could walk across to Clay, Jefferson, Adams, and Madison upon this broad platform of mist. Should this phenomenon occur before sunset, as sometimes it does, the effect is indescribably beautiful and grand, as though bridges of burnished gold had been thrown across the deep chasms from mountain top to mountain top. Through the long twilight these magical and shifting scenes continue, till the hour of retiring comes, and the comfortable beds of the hotel invite repose. At early dawn the traveller is aroused to witness the reverse of the picture which he saw upon the previous evening. The sun comes up from the sea, the great pyramid of shadow beginning in the west gradually contracts, the little cloud blankets rise from the lakes and float away into the upper air, and the sun, "as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber," clothed in light, "rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race." After such an experience, one can go down into the plain below, better and wiser for his visit among the clouds.

But it is time to turn from the hospitality of the Summit House, and descend, through the exciting views that lie around Mt. Washington, to the Glen House once more. We have not spoken of other attractions that belong to its neighborhood. One of these is a ride to "The Imp," which we have already described. On the way there one should not fail to visit the

Garnet Pools.

This series of basins in the Peabody River is situated near the Gorham road, at the foot of a gentle rise in the main road, about a mile from the hotel. Following the path by the bridge to the bank of the Peabody River, you will find the rocks of the river bed for some little distance curiously and delicately hollowed out and polished by the action of the water. In this, as in many other similar places in the mountain region, one is naturally curious to know how long these rocks have been subjected to such influence. A year's action makes no visible impression upon the solid granite, and yet, in many places, the rocks are worn away for fifteen or twenty feet. Garnet Pools is a tempting place for one interested in the studies of rock sculpture.

The most pleasurable excursions, however, are to be made on the road to North Conway and the Notch. We would first call attention to

Thompson's Falls.

This picturesque series of falls is to be found on a

tributary of the Peabody, about two miles from the hotel, on the road to North Conway. A guide-board informs you of the point at which you turn to the left and follow a path about a quarter of a mile into the woods. The brook is a tributary to the Peabody, and is usually well filled with water. These falls cannot compare in volume to the falls on the Ellis River, nor rival in the height of precipitous leap the cascade in the Notch. But for a series of delightful cascades and water-slides, and as furnishing a ramble of an hour or two among delicious bits of wild and romantic views, they may be truly called unequalled. You may follow up the brook for half a mile, without reaching the last of the series. If there were no other attractions, one would always be amply compensated for the toil of the ascent by the view that is gained of Mt. Washington and Tuckerman's Ravine. From no other point so easily accessible is so magnificent a picture of this mountain scenery presented.

The Emerald Pool

is so well worth visiting that a better path should be cut to it from the road. It is situated at a very short distance from the road, just before reaching the Thompson Falls.

The water of the river, after tossing and tumbling among the rocks, here flows into this quiet basin, and after reposing long enough to mirror the surrounding scenery, once more emerges, to recommence its toilsome journey. This pool is especially attractive for the quiet

and seclusion produced by the repose of the water, and the grace and coolness of the overhanging foliage.

Let us attend next to

The Glen Ellis Fall.

This cataract is one of the interesting features of the wild scenery in the neighborhood of the Glen House. Carriages run regularly from the hotel to carry visitors.

The fall is about four miles from the Glen House, near the road to North Conway and the Notch. It is very easy of access from the point where you leave the wagon, though it requires nearly half an hour, with ladies, to reach it. Five minutes' walk through the forest takes one within hearing of the rich roar that announces the nearness of the cataract. A critical ear could construct the form and grandeur of the fall from its voice. Its bass quality, not broad and massive, but youthful, vigorous, and intense, and the slight splashiness that borders and thins its baritone, foretell that we are to come upon a narrow cataract, leaping from a great height, with concentrated stream, into a shallow basin. But the sound does not prepare a stranger for the startling view upon which the forest path suddenly opens. From the carriage road, the foot track is nearly level, leading to a tree that overhangs a precipice of more than a hundred feet. We lean against this tree for support, not without misgivings as to its roots, and look down upon a huge wall of rock, over which the Ellis River, stranding the streams of its various brooks into a huge liquid cable, whose constant friction has

worn a deep groove in the granite, slides at a very sharp angle for some twenty feet, and then leaps, as from the nose of a gigantic pitcher, sixty feet more. The public (as well as the cascade) are indebted to Mr. SHEPLEY, of Portland, for changing its name from "Pitcher Fall," which was first given to it, to the more appropriate title of

GLEN ELLIS FALL.

This view, as well as that of Crystal Cascade, is engraved from a photograph taken by Bierstadt Bros.

To discover the most romantic and charming combinations in mountain scenery, one must explore the larger streams on their way to the open valleys. The Naiads know how to turn their course through the most picturesque passes, under the richest arches of forest boughs, and down the most bewitching dells. This is one of the glorious perquisites of the devoted trout-fisher, that his profession (for it is really one of the fine arts), leads him along the by-ways of beauty that are hidden from the eyes of ease-loving travellers, and up through winding cascade-aisles to many an adytum of forest wildness or mountain grandeur. Probably some trout-fisher was the discoverer of Glen Ellis Fall, which has been known only a few years. The first sight of it must have given a most impressive joy to the explorer if he were a man of taste.

The spot where it pours is more wild, and combines more of the elements of loneliness, untamableness, lawless beauty, and strong contrasts of features, than any other spot in the White Mountain region. The overhanging tree, against which the visitor leans to look down at the water-fall, giving him a footing that undermines his delight with a sense of insecurity and fear; the steep mountain wall opposite, more than three thousand feet high, and thick set to the top with trees; the hard granite rampart over which the compact white stream slips, and then spouts into the basin

below, and the smoothly carved groove, telling of the ages that have been exhausted in that merry rasping of the rock by the water-drops; the loveliness of the basin itself, when one goes down to it, and contrasts its green, placid surface with the leaping crystal column that pours into it from eighty feet above, — these, and the cheerful tripping of the stream on its way again in search of new adventures, after its mad plunge, combine to make a mountain retreat, whose wildness and music Scott would have delighted to enshrine in his vigorous verse, and which no visitor of Gorham and the Glen House should leave unvisited. Trenton has not any one scene, or any one cascade, so striking. It has always seemed to me, on a smaller scale, more like the scenery at the Natural Bridge in Virginia, than any other district of the White Mountains.

About an hour is required to reach Glen Ellis Fall from the Glen House. Visitors need another hour at the spot. Generally the visitor is too hurried. Twice the time that can be given is generally found to be needed.

We must next visit another waterfall, which is one of the most delightful resources of a visit at the Glen House. The

Crystal Cascade

is gained from an entrance in the woods about a mile from the Glen Ellis Fall, on the way back to the Glen House, from which it is only three miles distant. It pours down from heights opposite to those which feed

the Ellis river. Its descent is about eighty feet. Part of its water comes from the dome of Mt. Washington, through Tuckerman's Ravine. It takes twenty or thirty minutes of forest walking and climbing to reach the Crystal Cascade. The true point to see it is not the immediate foot of the fall, although most persons go there, but a high bank opposite, that overhangs the aged granite, and has plenty of the softest seats cushioned with moss a foot or more in depth. If it is wilderness, and the spirit of strong, bounding, unruly life that fascinates in the spot we have just left, here it is delicate and exquisite beauty.

At Glen Ellis the whole stream pitches in one concentrated tide; here, every pint of water is spread with charming economy to the utmost service. Some seventy feet above, we can see the brook pouring in a single stream around the bend. Then the rock broadens into a rough stairway, with easy slope, which grows wider and wider to the bottom, and down these steps the spreading water sheds its white, thin, dancing and broken sheet, showing, now and then, through its gauzy texture, the deep green mosses clinging to the rocks which soften its own fall, and make its cool music more gentle and luscious to the ear.

A friend of ours once compared it, quite happily, to an inverted liquid plume — the rill above, where the water is one stream, being the stem, and the widening, fleecy flow its nodding, graceful, feathery spray. As to the form of the cascade, nothing can be finer than the simile. But the delicate texture and color of

the descending rill suggest laces, and frills, and foam-embroidery. It is as though fairy milliners had set their wits to work to weave a ruffled bosom for the rocky breast of Mt. Washington, out of the snow-flax that falls in winter around his head.

CRYSTAL CASCADE.

There is a youthful and masculine energy in the Glen Ellis Fall. The Crystal Cascade shows rather a

feminine, maidenly delicacy and grace. There are always two parties among those who visit these falls, some contending for the superiority of the first, others for the greater charm of the last. If the reader visits both, no doubt he will adopt our opinion, that neither can be spared, and that they are so different as to repel comparison. A long forenoon or afternoon should be taken to make the excursion to both spots.

We come now to speak of

Tuckerman's Ravine,

whose walls are visible from the Glen House. This ravine is a tremendous gulf, in the southerly side of Mt. Washington. It was named in honor of Edward Tuckerman, Esq., who has been a faithful explorer of the White Mountains. He often visited the ravine, before the tide of travel turned to the eastern side of the mountains, to complete his knowledge of the lichens and flora of the region.

The hard, bare, thin, and curling edge of the southwestern wall of this ravine, as seen from the Glen House, is one of the most striking mountain lines visible from that fascinating spot. The gulf may be reached by climbing directly up the stream of the Crystal Cascade just spoken of. That stream flows through the centre of the sloping base of the ravine.

But the easier way is to follow the carriage road, for about two miles, up Mt. Washington; strike off to the left into a forest-path, cut by direction of Mr. Thompson, of the Glen House, and cross two and a

half miles of forest, that lie between the carriage road and "Hermit Lake." The more common way now, however, is to descend into the ravine from or near the summit. The Thompson path is not kept so free from obstructions, since the greater number of travellers prefer to descend into the ravine from the Summit.

The little sheet of water, called Hermit Lake, so snugly embowered in the wilderness, would attract more attention, were it not for the frowning wall of the ravine that looms over it, and draws the eye upwards. It lies under the south-east ridge. Emerging from the woods here, we see that the ravine is of horse-shoe shape — the opposite outer cliff more than a thousand feet in height, the bottom sloping upwards towards the backward crescent wall, and the rim quite level. Explorers must climb along the centre of the gulf, by the bed of a stream, pausing every minute to gaze at the grim ramparts on either hand, and to invent, possibly, some new exclamation of amazement and awe. Facing the party, as they make their way slowly upward, will be the grand curve of the sheer precipice that lies some way off, and up under the summit of Mt. Washington. It is symmetrical, seemingly, as the wall of the Coliseum.

The sight of that stupendous amphitheatre of stone, when one gets near enough to appreciate it, would of itself repay and overpay the labor of the climb. It is fitly called the "Mountain Coliseum." No other word expresses it, and that comes spontaneously to the lips. The eye needs some hours of gazing and comparative

measurement to fit itself for an appreciation of its scale and sublimity.

One can hardly believe, while standing there, that the sheer concave sweep of the back wall of the ravine was the work of an earthquake throe. It seems as though Titanic geometry and trowels must have come in to perfect a primitive volcanic sketch. One might easily fancy it the Stonehenge of a pre-Adamite race, — the unroofed ruins of a temple, reared by ancient Anaks long before the birth of man, for which the dome of Mt. Washington was piled as the western tower.

There have been land slides and rock avalanches as terrible in that ravine as at Dixville Notch. The teeth of the frosts have been as pitiless, the desolation of the cliffs is as complete, but the spirit of the place is not so gloomy as at Dixville. It is sublime rather than awful or dispiriting. At Dixville, all is decay, wreck, the hopeless submission of matter in the coil of its hungry foes. In Tuckerman's Ravine there is a grand battle of granite against storm and frost, — a Roman resistance, as though it could hold out for ages yet, before the siege of winter and all the batteries of the air.

Unless the season is very dry, the back wall of this Mountain Coliseum will glitter with innumerable veins of water, which are called "The Thousand Streams." When one has reached the base of this curving precipice, it is not a very difficult task to climb to the summit of Mt. Washington. Parties have sometimes done so, passed the night there, and returned to the Glen

House the next day. Many also have visited the ravine by descending into it, with a guide, from the top of Mt. Washington. The distance from the summit of the mountain to the bottom of the gulf is about a mile.

A visit to Tuckerman's Ravine, in August, will be the more interesting if "The Snow Arch" is formed there. Nearly every year this beautiful spectacle is to be seen. The snow is blown over from the summit of Mt. Washington by the north-west winds, in winter, and is packed in drifts of a hundred feet deep, under the walls of "The Coliseum." The streams of early spring and summer channel the snow bank, and it gradually melts from the roof within, till a vast snow cave is formed, through which a person may walk. In August, 1855, the snow field measured about 300 feet long, 70 in breadth, and 15 in depth. The roof of the part that was channelled was some five feet thick, and very solid. A hatchet was necessary to cut it. The top of the span was about ten feet high inside. The whole roof was wrought into beautiful scallops and chasings by the melting and dropping of the snow within. The bank does not disappear till the last of August. The dog-day fogs penetrate and dissolve it. Thus we narrowly escape having a glacier formed near the top of Mt. Washington.

Glen House to the Crawford House.

Having now passed a few days, or, still better, a few weeks amidst the wondrous scenery around the Glen House, we leave, with reluctance, this pleasant

hotel, and its hospitable hosts, and continue our journey to the Crawford House, at the Great Notch.

Although the greater part of the travel through the mountain region now goes over Mt. Washington, it must not be forgotten that there is a very delightful route around the southern side of the range, and through the White Mountain Notch. This was once the great thoroughfare, not only for pleasure travel but for persons having business in Coos County.

No stage now leaves the Glen House for the Crawford House direct. The stages, which are run twice a day to connect with the trains at North Conway, also take passengers for the Crawford House, who take the cars of the Portland and Ogdensburgh Railroad at Bartlett, fifteen miles from the Glen House. From this station to the Crawford House the distance is twenty-one miles. The distance from the Glen House to North Conway is twenty-one miles.

This route is first in a southerly direction through the Pinkham Notch, then westerly along the Southeastern flank of the mountains, and finally North through the Great Notch. This is the true way in which the Crawford House should be approached, embracing as it does the sublime impression received in gradually climbing up through this noble mountain pass.

On leaving the Glen House the road lies directly down the little descent towards the south. On the right, the carriage road to Mt. Washington turns off, and, crossing the rustic bridge over the Peabody River, is soon lost among the trees. The forests, —

with the long festoons of gray moss hanging from the trees, relieved by the soft green moss at their feet, and variegated by the mountain boxberry, the violet-striped orcalis, the linnæa borealis, and the orebis, — now close in on each side; the open space of Bellows' clearing, which we left, is no longer visible, and we can catch only occasional glimpses through the foliage of the overhanging cliffs of Carter Mountain on the left, and of the lofty hills beyond the river on the right. We are fairly within the portals of Pinkham Notch, and the silence and solitude are relieved only by the tinkling, and bubbling, and rushing of the Peabody River, as the road follows closely its rocky bed. Here and there are quiet pools much frequented in the warm season by the lover of trouting.

About two or three miles from the Glen House the road crosses the river twice in quick succession, and reaches the highest point of the Notch. Here the Peabody River and the Ellis issue in nearly parallel courses from the forest on the right, so near to each other that a slight amount of labor would turn either stream into the other. Indeed, a part of the water that descends at the Crystal Cascade seeks the ocean by the Peabody River, and a part flows into the Saco by the Ellis. As soon as they have passed under the road, the Peabody turns abruptly down the ravine to the north to unite with the Androscoggin, while the Ellis takes an opposite course down the Notch towards the Saco.

Between the two streams, on the right, is the entrance to the Crystal Cascade, already spoken of, distant from the road only about a third of a mile.

After leaving the entrance to this cascade we cross the Ellis River, and soon pass the Mineral Spring House, an unfinished and uninhabited cottage in the edge of the forest on the right. This house, the only shelter for seven miles, was located here on account of the supposed medicinal character of the spring near by; but the project has been abandoned, and the building seems going to ruin.

Proceeding a little farther, we reach the entrance to the Glen Ellis Falls on the left. This cascade is nearer the road than the other, and is approached by an easy path of plank.

The Foot of Pinkham Notch.

Passing down the Notch for two or three miles, the country opens again, and cleared fields on the intervals of the Ellis River take the place of unsubdued forests. Near this point a glance towards the north-west is rewarded by a fine view of a monster bowlder, apparently rolling down a south-eastern spur of Mt. Washington. The first house is soon reached, and we seek to catch a sight of the inhabitants, whose nearest neighbors on the north are seven miles away. The house is quite large, and is considerably visited by artists and others, who delight in the wildness of the surrounding scenery, and the substantial mountain fare.

To this vicinity Capt. Joseph Pinkham, and four other hardy pioneers, removed in April, 1790, from Madbury, in the lower part of the State. The Pinkham family came up over the snow, which lay five feet

deep, and brought all their household goods from Conway on a hand-sled. They found their log cabin, which had been erected during the previous autumn, almost buried in the snow. One of the sons of the family, Mr. Daniel Pinkham, constructed the Notch road, and gave to it his name.

Jackson.

A few miles more, through a widening valley, brings us to a sudden turn, which discloses the white spire of the church in "Jackson City." It belongs to a Free-will Baptist Society, founded in this quiet valley as early as 1803. You should not omit, near this point, to look back at the dark gorges, which open miles away towards Mt. Washington. A little distance on is a quiet but pleasant hotel, called the "Jackson Falls Hotel," kept by J. B. Trickey. This hotel is within three minutes' walk of the Jackson Falls. The Thorn Mountain House is on the opposite side of the river. The Glen Ellis House is a new hotel, thoroughly built, and furnished in the best and most comfortable style. It is kept by N. T. Stillings, who formerly kept the dining hotel when stages were the only conveyance on the route. This house is so located as to command the best views of the town of Jackson. Transient board, $2.50 per day; $9.00 to $14.00 by the week. In this vicinity is some of the best trout-fishing to be found among the mountains; and those who are fond of the piscatorial art cannot do better than make these hotels their home for a short time. Near by is a

romantic cascade on the Wild-cat Brook, a tributary of the Ellis River. Excursions may be made to the Fernald Farm, four or five miles distant, and to the Iron Mountains. Jackson is situated at an elevation of 759 feet above the sea level.

From the portico of the hotel there is gained a fine view of the surrounding mountains. Facing the south you see Iron Mountain, rising to the height of 2,900 feet on the right, and the bald peak of Tin Mountain on the left. Soon after leaving the hotel the two noble peaks of Doublehead come into view in the north-east. The nearer peak is 3,000 feet high, and the farther a hundred feet higher. Jackson has vast mineral resources, possessing, besides many less important metals, iron, copper, and tin. The last was discovered here before it had been found in any other part of the United States. This town was first named New Madbury, then Adams, in honor of the great statesman, and finally received its present name when Adams and Jackson were competitors for the presidency, — all its voters but one being in favor of the latter.

Between this place and Goodrich Falls, the large and heavily wooded hills lie wide from the road, and bend around the pastures like the walls of huge coliseums. Here and there a glimpse is caught of the hard summits of the Washington range, which have been hidden for several miles by the nearer ridges, when suddenly a view of them opens by a sharp turn in the road, which, for grandeur, surpasses any aspect they

present from other points. Artists prefer this point to any others that are accessible for studies of the massiveness and sublimity of the imperial ridge.

The Carter Notch

can be best reached from Jackson. This notch is nearly ten miles from Jackson, and has been but little visited, though the scenery is wild and romantic. It is only about five miles from the Glen House; but the path is difficult and obscure. It is proposed to open a more practicable route during this season; and it is to be hoped that it will be done.

On leaving Jackson, one should not fail to be on the alert for a view of

Goodrich Falls.

A mile below Jackson, just before crossing the new trestle bridge over the Ellis River, you can obtain a fine view of Goodrich Falls. Leaving the road a little above the bridge, and proceeding a few rods to the right, you come to an old bridge in front of the cataract, from which a good view can be obtained. This is the largest perpendicular fall to be seen among the mountains, and after heavy rains appears quite grand. At any time the view down the river between the steep wooded banks is exceedingly picturesque. A short scramble on the opposite side of the river will be amply rewarded by the nearer view of the falls which is thereby gained. The erection of the mill has greatly injured the view; but enough remains to reward the observer.

The Saco Valley.

At the Glen Station, the tourist leaves the carriage. The remainder of the route is up the famed Saco Valley, over the Portland and Ogdensburgh Railroad. The distance to the Crawford House is twenty-one miles. This is the original route to the mountains, and formed not only the grand highway before any of the railroads were built, but also served as the chief line of communication between the country to the north and the southern portions of the State.

The whole valley is very attractive; and one is inclined to doubt whether the old mode of conveyance, even if more fatiguing, had not some advantages over the easier journey by rail. The beautiful level intervals on each side of the stream are worthy of our attention, as well as the hills, which rise boldly on each side at no great distance from the river. Before us, a little to the left, are the three peaks of Tremont Mountain, about 3,500 feet in height; and directly behind, for a long distance, we can see the noble pyramidal form of Kiarsarge or Pequawket, whose solitariness gives it a lonely dignity scarcely equalled by any other mountain in the region. The highway was the tenth turnpike constructed in New Hampshire, and was incorporated in 1803. It extends through the Notch, and through Nash and Sawyer's Location, twenty miles, and cost forty thousand dollars. On account of the immense travel over it, it nevertheless paid well.

The trip by rail through the Notch should not be omitted, whatever be the route by which the Notch is approached. If the route now described is taken, the

railroad is, of course, an essential part. If Mt. Washington is crossed, and the tourist descends by the railway to the Fabyan or Crawford House, or if he enter the mountains from the west, over the Boston, Concord, and Montreal Railroad, he ought, as a part of his visit, as essential as the ascent of Mt. Washington, to make the excursion trip from the Notch to Conway and return, which is provided for by a special arrangement of the trains. The road, even in the present state of railroad engineering, is remarkable for its successful victory over natural obstacles; while, to those who are not specially interested in practical mechanics, it is equally interesting for the noble views it affords.

As you go north, the road for the more difficult and abrupt part of the ascent clings to the left side of the pass, gradually working up to the height of the Crawford House plateau. That this ascent may be more clearly realized, we give the altitudes as furnished by the engineer, Mr. John F. Anderson. The distances are from the Crawford House.

Saco River, junction of the Ellis, 20½ miles, 511 feet.

Saco River, junction of Rocky Branch, 19 miles, 560 feet.

Upper Bartlett Village, 15 miles, 660 feet.

Nancy's Brook, at highway crossing, 9 miles, 1003 feet.

Willey House, at highway, 3 miles, 1323 feet.

South end of Gate of the Notch, $\frac{7}{10}$ miles, 1819 feet.

Crawford House, 1899 feet.

Highest grade on the road, 1893 feet.

Fabyan House, 4 miles, 1571 feet.

Upper Bartlett

is the first station, after leaving the Glen Station. The town of Bartlett is nearly coincident with a tract of land granted to Capt. William Stark and Vere Royce, as a reward for services performed in Canada during the French and Indian war, and was settled about 1770.

The village is small; but there are many houses at considerable intervals along the valley. The Bartlett House, kept by Frank George, will accommodate fifty guests. About two miles north of the village is Sawyer's River, which rises in the Notch of Carrigain Mountain. The owners of the land in this locality have a charter for a railroad, which they propose to build to move the lumber. If built, it will lead nearly to the east branch of the Pemigewassett, and open an easy road to the Profile House.

On the highway, just before reaching this stream, is the high rock which is called

Sawyer's Rock,

and famous for its association with the discovery of the Great Notch. The story is narrated by Mr. Willey, in his well-known White Mountain Incidents. In early periods, the land on the north side of the mountains was almost valueless on account of the long circuit which must be made to reach it. It is supposed that the Indians had been acquainted with the pass, now called the Notch, and had taken their prisoners through it to Canada; but it was still unknown to the white inhabitants, until about 1771 a solitary hunter, named Nash, happened to climb a tree on Cherry

Mountain to look for game. Casting his eye towards the south-east he thought he perceived an opening through the mountains. Making his way in that direction, he arrived at last at the narrow opening called the Gate of the Notch, and passing through the gorge he proceeded to Portsmouth, and announced the long wished-for discovery to Gov. Wentworth. Hunters had before scaled the mountains on foot, so the governor determined to test the feasibility of the pass, by promising Nash a large tract of land on the north side of the mountains,—since known as Nash and Sawyer's Location,—if he would get a horse through and bring him to Portsmouth. This was by no means an easy task; but by the aid of Sawyer, a fellow-hunter, he succeeded in bringing the horse through, sometimes drawing him up high precipices with ropes, and then letting him down on the other side. When they let him down the last rock on the southern side, Sawyer drained the rum from his bottle, and, dashing it on the rock, exclaimed, "This shall hereafter be called Sawyer's Rock!"—and so it is.

The mountains begin to draw nearer and nearer, and to assume more definitely the appearance of a mountain pass. Just before reaching Bemis' Station, the road crosses Nancy's Brook. The ravine over which this bridge is thrown is about 200 feet long, 20 feet wide, and 35 feet deep, and seems to have been chiselled from the solid granite. The rapid passage of the train barely enables one to catch a glimpse of the foaming water as it rushes by.

It was near this spot that a disconsolate maiden perished with fatigue and cold, when she had walked all the way from Jefferson, through the snow and darkness, in pursuit of her recreant lover. She was found stiff and cold, sitting at the foot of a tree near the bank of this brook. The incident has already afforded material for the pen of the novelist; and the skill of the pencil has been repeatedly employed in portraying the picturesque beauty of Nancy's Bridge, and its setting of wild rocks, and trees, and bubbling cascades. The best view is to be obtained at a little distance down the stream. A saw-mill, unfortunately, covers the upper half of the charming scene.

Half a mile farther on, and nine miles from the Crawford House, is Bemis' Station. At this place is the old Mt. Crawford House, not now open. There was formerly a bridle path up Mt. Washington from this spot.

Here old Abel Crawford, styled the "Patriarch of the Mountains," lived, and reared his family. At the age of seventy-five he made the first ascent ever made to Mt. Washington on horseback. When he was eighty, he was so robust as to think nothing of walking eight miles before breakfast to his son's house at the Gate of the Notch. His son, Ethan Allen Crawford, called the "Giant of the Hills," cut the first bridle-path to Mt. Washington, in 1821. He resided at that time near the Fabian House; and the path was nearly, if not quite, coincident with the one which winds along by the side of the railway. All the paths on the western side of the mountains were cut by the Crawfords. Ethan was a great

hunter, and used to delight his guests with quaintly-related stories of many a daring adventure. Both he and his father acted as guides to the travellers who, in their time, visited the mountains. At the time of the Willey slide, the Saco rose so rapidly and so high as to flood the lower story of Mr. Crawford's house, before the family could escape. He himself was away from home, but the rest retired to the upper story, and during the raging tempest, Mrs. Crawford stood at the north window, clearing away with a pole the logs and other drift which pressed with so much force against the house as to threaten it with instant destruction. This intrepid woman was the mother of eight sons.

The Approach to the Notch.

As we proceed up the Saco, Mt. Crawford and the Giant's Stairs are distinctly visible beyond the river on the right. The southern peak, Mt. Crawford, is 3,200 feet high, and the northern, 3,500. Between them is Mt. Resolution. Over these eminences passes the Davis Road to Mt. Washington. The road here winds along under the Frankenstein cliff, on a steep ascending grade, leaving the old highway to gain as much altitude as possible before reaching the Notch. At this point, one must not fail to notice the iron trestle-bridge by which the ravine is crossed. It is 500 feet long, and 80 feet high; and seems so slender, that a strong breeze will cause it to disappear. The road soon crosses the Brook Kedron, and discloses the great Notch. Looking up the gorge, we behold the frowning Webster on the right, the scarred sides of the fatal Willey on the left, and the rounded summit of Mt. Willard just appearing

far away in the middle of the picture. This view of Mt. Webster from the end is perhaps the most impressive way in which it can be seen. We cannot help wondering if human foot has ever dared to tread its apparently inaccessible heights, or to explore its mysterious recess. Well was it named for him whose overhanging, thoughtful brow these majestic cliffs so much resemble.

Passing the Willey House, far below in the Notch, the road is now under the precipitous side of Mt. Willard, and soon emerges through the gate of the Notch, crossing the head waters of the Saco, and stopping at the Crawford House station.

Of the Notch, Starr King wrote as follows: "There is little need now of any detailed or elaborate description of the wildness and majesty of the Notch. Its tremendous walls are touched with a terror, reflected from the Willey calamity, which is not explained by the abrupt battlements of Mt. Willey and Mt. Webster, and the purple bluff of Mt. Willard, which stands in the way between them to forbid any passage through. It is well to remind visitors at the Crawford House, however, that the most impressive view of the Notch, after all, is not gained by riding up through it from Bartlett, but by riding down into it from the Crawford House through the narrow gateway. This excursion should, without fail, be made from the Crawford House by all persons who have only ascended through it from Conway by stage. They will find a turn in the road, not a mile from the gateway, where three tremendous rocky lines sweep down to a focus

from Mt. Willard, Mt. Webster, and Mt. Willey. There is more character in this view than in the aspect of the open gorge at the Willey House. This is the Notch in bud, with its power concentrated, and suggested to the imagination. At the Willey House it is all open; you stand between walls two miles long; and there are no ragged, nervous lines of rock running down from a cloud, or lying sharp against the blue distance. Especially if one can take a walk or drive to the point we speak of, near the Crawford House, late in a clear afternoon, he will be doubly repaid by the sight of one of these mountain edges sweeping down in shadow to the haggard ruins at its base, and of the others glistening delicate and cheerful gold. A moonlight view at the same spot gives the contrast no less marked and impressive, in blackness on one side, and silver on the other."

The Crawford House

is a large edifice, very commodious and agreeable for a summer hotel. There are pleasant piazzas on the outside; and fine halls, much used in the evening for promenading, run the entire length of the house within. The parlor is large and well furnished; the dining-room ample in its proportions, and its table always well supplied. There are a post-office, telegraph, and barber-shop in the house. The lodging-rooms of the house are well furnished and pleasant, especially those which have windows towards the Notch. Connected with the hotel are a bowling-alley for rainy-day and evening amusement, and extensive stables, furnished with a large number of horses, to be used either under the saddle or in car-

riages for the delightful rides in this vicinity. This hotel is now owned by Messrs. A. T. & O. F. Barron, who are also the proprietors of the Twin-Mountain House, and is under the immediate charge of Mr. Merrill. The hotel is lighted with gas. The reputation gained by the Twin-Mountain House will be fully sustained here; while the guests of the house will also find that the standard of excellence, which has long characterized the "Notch House," has not been lost sight of. A more cheerful and pleasant resting-place cannot be found in the mountain tour, and visitors will find it agreeable to spend a few days in exploring the beauties of the neighborhood.

The Plateau.

We are now in the midst of a little plateau, about two thousand feet above the sea. It is the highest point of the valley, and the water flows from it in both directions, the spring near the house discharging its contents down through the Notch into the Saco, and that at the stables emptying itself into a tributary of the Ammonoosuc, and reaching the sea through the Connecticut. In front of the house there is a beautiful fountain, and farther on, a tiny lake, which forms the head waters of the Saco. Down near the gate of the Notch, on the left hand, are the ruins of the old Notch House. This was erected by Ethan Allen Crawford and his father, and kept for a public house by Thomas J. Crawford, a brother of Ethan. Many a thrilling tale is narrated of the adventures of the early guests at this house who attempted to ascend the mountains

under the guidance of the Crawfords, or sometimes even without guides. The appearance of the Notch House is familiar to almost every one, from its having

WHITE MOUNTAIN NOTCH.

been pictured so often in our common school books. It was the largest house of the region for a long time after it was built, and the upper story projected over the arch-topped sheds below in a peculiar manner. After the Crawford House was erected, the building was used for lodging the supernumeraries, who could not find quarters in the large hotel.

We must suppose that every one, no matter by what route he has come, will do what Mr. King advises, — go down through the Notch to enjoy the views of which he speaks. At the end of the steep descent is

The Willey House.

This edifice was the scene of the disaster which caused the loss of the Willey family. Only the northern portion of the present building was standing at that time, the other part having been added since. It was erected by a Mr. Hill, for a public-house, not far from 1820. Previous to this period, there was no habitation between the Old Crawford House and the Rosebrooks', a distance of thirteen miles. After occupying the house for a few years, Mr. Hill left it; and it stood empty for several months. At last, in the autumn of 1825, Mr. Willey moved in with his family, and passed the ensuing winter very comfortably. In the June following, however, there was a slide from the mountain, which somewhat terrified them, but did them no permanent injury. On the night of Aug. 28, 1826, a violent tempest raged about the Notch, and a vast amount of soil and of rocks on Willey Mountain was precipitated into the valley below, overwhelming the whole family, consisting of Mr. Willey, his wife, five children, and two hired men. Mr. Willey, anticipating a slide, had built for himself a shelter farther down the valley, in what he supposed would be a safe place for refuge. It is supposed that the family were endeavoring to reach this place when they were overtaken by the slide. The house itself was

not injured, though the cabin, which it is possible they reached, was carried away. A pile of stones alone marks the place where the bodies of most of them were found. The father, mother, and two children rest in the burial place of the family, near the boundary of Bartlett and Conway. The house was deserted for a year after this event; but at last a family named Pendexter moved in, and it has been generally occupied since that period. Of late years it has become important as a show-place, twelve and a half cents being charged for showing each person through the house. There is, however, nothing within the ruinous edifice of sufficient interest to warrant even this trifling expenditure. In the rear is seen the great rock, once thirty feet high, which separated the slide, and thus saved the house. The top of it is now almost level with the ground around it, and a pole thirty feet high has been erected close by, to assist the inexperienced mind in forming a correct conception of the former height of the rock. So kindly is sight-seeing here made easy for beginners. From the top of the rock, a beautiful path, quite the most attractive element of the scene, winds among the birches on the slide, far up the mountain. In front of the house is still standing the ruin of the stable, which was half demolished by the avalanche. Before remounting the coach, you should not fail to drink some of the excellent water to be found at the upper end of the piazza.

It is sometimes wondered that any one dares to inhabit so perilous a spot as this; but it must not be

forgotten that the side of Willey is now so bare, that there seems nothing more to come down but the solid rock of the mountain. On the opposite side of the river, however, Mt. Webster rises, apparently perpendicular, to the height of 2,000 feet above the valley, and almost threatens to overwhelm it. In every tempest the inhabitants of the Willey House hear the enormous rocks crashing down its precipitous sides, with the sound of thunder, while lightnings play about its awful brow. But there is in reality no danger.

The Head of the Notch.

After leaving the Willey House, the road winds up the narrow ravine for about three miles, ever and anon crossing the rushing stream, and bending around projecting rocks. This part of the trip is generally performed at the close of the day, when the lengthened shadows add a gloomy grandeur to the scene. Shut in by dismal walls 2,000 feet high, our hearts sink within us with a feeling of utter insignificance. The steep sides of Willey Mountain are diversified by tier above tier of wand-like white birches, the stems being peculiarly apparent on account of the steepness of the mountain. At the top of this mountain, on a sort of plateau, is a little lake called Ethan's Pond. Near as this is to the Saco, it yet finds its outlet towards the south-west into the Pemigewasset, and so into the Merrimack. On each side, far above our heads, little torrents come pouring down over the rocks in cascades, which will be examined more at our leisure,

These may be visited on the return trip, or on the way down the Notch. As many will walk thus far down the Notch who would not care to go as far as the Willey House, we will speak first of those nearer the hotel. On the way to the Notch, Idlewild is passed on the east shore of the little pond, where a portion of the forest has been made very attractive by means of paths and seats, so placed as to command fine views. Passing through the gate of the Notch, you soon come to the profiles of the "Old Maid," the "Infant," and the "Young Man," pointed out by convenient signboards. Here, also, is the overhanging rock called the "Devil's Pulpit." About three-fourths of a mile from the hotel is

The Flume.

The part of the little mountain stream, which here is crossed by a small bridge, derives its name from the narrow and deep gorge through which the waters rush with great rapidity. The chasm, like many others in the mountains, though doubtless formed by some convulsion of Nature, seems chiselled out of the solid rock. Where the rivulet descends from the mountain side above, there is a fall of some two or three hundred feet, and on the opposite side you can still hear, though you cannot see, the water rushing down still farther to join the current of the Saco, which winds its way through the whole length of the Notch. You may be tempted to an exploration, but your path, though not dangerous, will be very difficult.

A little distance farther down the Notch you will

come to the most beautiful of all the falls on this side of the mountain, the

Silver Cascade.

This is also sometimes called the Second Flume, from a similar formation, immediately beneath the bridge, to the one already described. But its chief charm is in the perpendicular descent of water for a distance of almost four hundred feet. As you stand on the piazza of the hotel, you see this same stream far up the mountain, full a mile distant, leaping over the rocks and flashing in the sunlight like a silvered pinnacle of some mountain shrine. But as you stand on the bridge, or at the very base of the fall, which you can reach with care, the water seems pouring over the edge of the precipice. Just after a heavy rain the huge rock, which just below the summit usually divides the current, is almost entirely concealed by the spray. Like the most of mountain falls, it rather glides over the surface of the ledge than leaps in a clear, unbroken sheet from the summit to the base. At first the water is diffused over a broad surface, and in times of a drought is divided into several small streams. Before it reaches the base, however, all the water is compressed into a very narrow channel. Then, hurrying along over a comparatively level bed, it again, as it reaches the bridge, plunges down a distance of some twenty feet, and, driving through the flume, disappears among the bushes on the opposite side of the road. There is, perhaps, no place on this

side of the mountains which so enchains one by its loveliness as the Silver Cascade. You may spend hours around it, and yet long to return to its solitary beauty. The very height of the mountains, rising almost perpendicularly on each side of you, causes you to feel the impressiveness and power of the rushing torrent. These cascades will appear to particular advantage, if you are fortunate enough to walk down into the Notch on a moonlight evening. Carriages, also, often leave the Crawford House on other excursions, such as to the Willey House, and to Ammonoosuc Falls, which will be described below. The fare to these falls, when a carriage is sent for the purpose, is fifty cents for each passenger.

Sparkling Cascade and Sylvan Glade Cataract.

Mr. King, in his admirable "White Hills," speaks of these falls as follows:—

"But a more wild and beautiful waterfall than any hitherto seen on the western side of the mountains was discovered at Mount Willey, in September, 1858, by Mr. Ripley of North Conway, and Mr. Porter of New York. An old fisherman had reported, at the Crawford House, that he had once seen a wonderful cascade on a streamlet that pours down that mountain and empties into the Saco below the Willey House. These gentlemen drove through the Notch to the second bridge below the Willey House, which crosses a stream with the unpoetical name of Cow Brook, and followed up the rivulet into the wild forest. An ascent of nearly

two miles revealed to them the object of their search, enclosed between the granite walls of a very steep ravine, whose cliffs, crowned with a dense forest of spruce, are singularly grand. They saw the cascade leaping first over four rocky stairways, each of them about six feet high, and then gliding at an angle of forty-five degrees, a hundred and fifty feet, with many graceful curves, down a solid bed of granite into the pool below. The cascade is about seventy-five feet wide at the base, and fifty at the summit.

"Exploring the stream nearly a mile higher, other falls were discovered, each one deserving especial notice, and one or two of most rare beauty. The finest of these upper falls was christened, we believe, by the discoverer, the 'Sparkling Cascade,' and the larger one below, the 'Sylvan Glade Cataract.' The brook itself has been named since in honor of Mr. Ripley, and the ravine, of Mr. Porter. We hope, however, that the name 'Avalanche Brook,' which we believe the explorers first gave to it, may be the permanent title of the stream, since it flows near the track of the fatal land slide of 1826, and that Mr. Ripley's name may be transferred to the cataract.

"Mr. Champney, who visited the falls about a fortnight after their discovery, is inclined to ascribe to them a nobler beauty than any other thus far known among the mountains. He describes the picturesque rock-forms as wonderful, and their richness in color and making, in mosses and lichens, as more admirable than any others he has had the privilege of studying in the

mountain region. And this cascade is only a sample, probably, of the uncelebrated beauties in the wilderness around the White Hills."

Gibbs's Falls.

There is near the Crawford House a series of cascades which are well worthy the attention of the tourist. By entering the woods near the stables of the Crawford House, and following the aqueduct which supplies the hotel with water, the traveller soon reaches a brook which presents a succession of falls that in romantic loveliness are inferior to none in the White or Franconia Mountains. To the most striking of these the name of one of the landlords of the Crawford House has been given. Gibbs's Falls is about a quarter of a mile from the point at which the aqueduct issues from the brook, and is easily accessible in half an hour's walk from the hotel. The water at this point makes an abrupt descent of thirty or forty feet in two distinct sheets, which are separated by a projecting cliff draped in a scanty verdure of lichens and mosses, and crowned by a single monster pine. The contrast between the emerald greenness of the projecting islet and the foaming torrents which encompass it on either hand is picturesque in the extreme, and these hitherto nameless falls are well worthy the attention of the artist and the lover of nature.

The vicinity of the Crawford House presents no more pleasing or satisfactory excursion than the far and justly famed ascent of

Mt. Willard.

This mountain is easily ascended, to the very summit, in carriages, which are furnished for the excursion at a reasonable rate, while those who prefer to make the ascent on foot will find the walk, through groves of maple and mountain ash, pleasant, and by no means fatiguing. Were the ascent less attractive in other respects, the ease and safety with which it can be made, even by an invalid, must render Mt. Willard a favorite; but it is very generally conceded by tourists, that the view from the summit of this mountain affords more *pleasure* than that from its more pretentious neighbors. By a gradual ascent, over heavily-wooded slopes, you reach an elevation of more than two thousand feet above the Crawford House, and stand upon a little plateau, which is broken by the precipitous southern front of the mountain, and thickly strewn with delicate and beautiful mountain harebells. Directly in front, at your very feet as you emerge from the scanty and stunted growth which marks the approach to the summit, lies the Notch — then only fully felt when, after having gazed upward from its gloomy fastnesses at the massive barriers which hem you in, you learn from this standpoint how well its grandeur and magnificence will bear calmer and more protracted scrutiny. Here you catch at a glance the conformation of the entire valley. You can trace the carriage road winding like a ribbon down through the wooded pass. In the distance lies the Willey House, above which

> "Winds underground or waters forcing way
> Sidelong have forced a mountain from his seat,
> Half-sunk with all his pines," —

while on every hand are indications that such a catastrophe as overwhelmed its inmates is not even now impossible. Down the rugged face of the mountains to your left, across the Notch, can be traced innumerable cascades, glistening in the sunshine, and assuming each moment some new phase of wonderful and varied beauty, where

> "Like a downward smoke, the slender stream,
> Along the cliff to fall, and pause, and fall doth seem."

Far above, tower those more noted and eagerly welcomed peaks, which envious hills and forests snatch from the gazer below. The whole landscape, seen "through varying lights and shadows," is perhaps as attractive and winning as any thing in the vicinity of the Crawford House.

Of this view, Bayard Taylor speaks as follows, as he saw it upon a recent visit: —

"The effect was magical. The sky had, in the mean time, partially cleared, and patches of sunny gold lay upon the dark mountains. Under our feet yawned the tremendous gulf of the Notch, roofed with belts of cloud, which floated across from summit to summit nearly at our level; so that we stood, as in the organ-loft of some grand cathedral, looking down into its dim nave. At the farther end, over the fading lines of some nameless mountains, stood Chocorua, purple with distance, terminating the majestic vista. It was

a picture which the eye could take in at one glace; no landscape could be more simple or more sublime. The noise of a cataract to our right, high up on Mount Willey, filled the air with a far, sweet fluctuating murmur, but all round us the woods were still, the harebells bloomed, and the sunshine lay warm upon the granite.

"I had never heard this view particularly celebrated, and was therefore the more impressed by its wonderful beauty. As a simple picture of a mountain pass, seen from above, it cannot be surpassed in Switzerland. Something like it I have seen in the Taurus, otherwise I can recall no view with which to compare it. A portion of the effect, of course, depends on the illumination, but no traveller who sees it on a day of mingled cloud and sunshine will be disappointed."

The Devil's Den.

Near the summit of Mt. Willard, on the southern side, is the remarkable cavern called the "Devil's Den," whose black mouth was distinctly visible in coming up the Notch. This cavern, which is only accessible by means of ropes, was explored, in 1856, by Dr. Ball of Boston, who secured as trophies of his exploration two hawk's feathers, and effectually dissipated the impression that the cavern was of immense extent, and frequented through another entrance by beasts of prey. The Den proved to be only about twenty feet wide, fifteen feet high, and twenty deep, and so cold and damp that not even the birds take

refuge in it. The story of its previous exploration by one of the Crawfords, who discovered large quantities of bones and the usual accessories of all famous caverns, must be a myth. This cave can be seen from the Notch road.

Hitchcock's Flume

is also on the side of Mt. Willard. A path has been opened to it from the carriage-road. It was discovered by Professor Hitchcock, and has received his name. "It is 350 feet long, seven feet wide at the top, varying to six, ten, five, and finally eight feet. It is everywhere widest at the top. The walls are generally vertical, the south wall occasionally hanging slightly over a perpendicular. I judge that portions of this wall rise 100 feet above the floor: usually they will not exceed half this amount. The top rises 220 feet above the lower opening, the latter being 580 feet above the railroad beneath."

Beecher's Falls

is also one of the attractions of the Notch. An easy path through the woods to the right of the hotel leads one to a mountain-brook, which, even in the dryest season, is well filled with pure mountain-water. On this brook, for a third of a mile, will be found a series of delightful cascades, not excelled for beauty in the whole range of mountain-travel. At the head of the uppermost fall, called the Flume Cascade, on the broad shelving rocks, a full view of the summit of Mt. Washington is to be had, which will well repay one for the ascent,

which is by no means difficult. The Falls are named for Rev. H. W. Beecher of Brooklyn, N. Y., who is said to have taken an involuntary bath in one of the basins at the foot of a cascade.

The mountain, in the same direction from the hotel as the Falls, whose summit has been disclosed by cutting away the trees of the hill near the house, has been named Mt. Field by Mr. Hitchcock.

The Crawford Bridle-Path

is little used, except for foot-passengers. It is ten miles long, and passes over the summits of Mt. Clinton, Mt. Pleasant, Mt. Franklin, and Mt. Monroe, before reaching Mt. Washington. The path, for the greater part of the way, is well marked; but as fogs are liable to come up suddenly, and as persons have lost their way on these mountains, it cannot be considered safe for one not thoroughly acquainted with it to attempt it without a guide. One who has the strength to go through with so laborious a day will find his exertions well repaid by the fine views afforded by the trip.

The ascent of Mt. Washington is now made by the railway. Though the branch road up the Ammonoosuc Valley diverges at the Fabyan House, which is the point of immediate departure, the trip may also be made from the Crawford House without inconvenience. Trains run between the Fabyan and Crawford Houses (four miles) to connect with the trains up and down Mt. Washington; so that one now starts at almost the same time from either hotel.

Mt. Pleasant.

The view from Mt. Pleasant is so fine, that it is to be greatly regretted that the bridle-path is not kept up to this point, even if no farther.

The great advantage of this route to the summit of Mount Washington consists in the passage over separate mountain peaks, from each of which views of great beauty are obtained. It often happens, too, that when the summit of Washington is wrapped in an impenetrable mantle of mist, these lower summits, and all the surrounding landscape, are in clear light, and often, indeed, bathed in sunshine. When this is the case, those who ascend by this route have the pleasure of enjoying the peculiar excitement of standing on the clear mountain top. Neither should one regret an occasional cloud or shower. No mountain effect can be finer than that produced by the dense masses of boiling vapor, as they gather in the valleys, now all on fire from the rays of the sun, shading off into golden tints, and now a dark sombre gray, needing only a little less light to become the "l'aer perso" of Dante's Inferno, slowly yet steadily rolling up the mountain side, concealing the depths of the ravine, and at last enveloping you with its penetrating moisture. Then the mist leaves you as suddenly as it came, and opens to your vision an abyss yawning at your very feet and reaching to the mountain's base. Such sights as these are ample compensation for the passing shower. Then at another time, both here and on the summit, you may often see the light fleecy clouds floating about the

ravines, climbing the slopes, or hurrying over the valleys, casting long shadows over the green mountain sides, and spotting the fields with a deeper color. We shall see these clouds

"Lie couched around us like a flock of sheep,"

when the haze has been swept from the horizon, immediately after a rain-storm. This is unquestionably the pleasantest time to ascend the mountains.

The way to Mt. Pleasant lies over Mt. Clinton, up which the old path winds immediately on entering the woods opposite the hotel.

The path lies a little to the north of the summit of Mt. Clinton, and as we wind around it over the bare rocks, the first noble mountain view bursts upon our sight. Almost directly before us, towards the east, is the conical summit of Kiarsarge, and apparently near it some little silver lakes, with a blue setting of many mountains; and behind we can discern Willard, and the other mountains around the Notch, mottled here and there with the shadows of passings clouds.

As we begin to descend to the narrow ridge, which joins this mountain to the next, we gain a view of the nearer objects beneath us. On the right, at a depth of 2,000 feet, is a vast forest, through which winds the Mt. Washington River, and beyond is a long range of giant hills, which, like these we are on, seem marching in solemn procession towards the great central shrine. On the left, at a similar depth, the Ammonoosuc is seen threading the forest, and at last finding its way to the open country in the distance. The first experience of real mountain travel is gained as we slide

down the rocks, and wind along the bleak ridge which connects Mt. Clinton with Mt. Pleasant, up whose rounded top the ascent, though steep, is not long. The whole mountain region of New Hampshire is about forty miles square; but the name, "White Mountains," is sometimes applied, for the sake of distinction, only to this particular group, of which Mt. Washington is the culminating point. The following list gives the name and height of each mountain of the range, in its order, commencing at the Notch:—

Mt. Webster,	4,000 ft.	Mt. Washington,	6,285 ft.
Mt. Jackson,	4,100 "	Mt. Clay,	5,400 "
Mt. Clinton,	4,200 "	Mt. Jefferson,	5,700 "
Mt. Pleasant,	4,800 "	Mt. Adams,	5,800 "
Mt. Franklin,	4,900 "	Mt. Madison,	5,400 "
Mt. Monroe,	5,400 "		

One of the Indian names of these mountains was "Agiocochook," which signifies "the place of the Spirit of the Great Forest," or, according to Judge Potter, "the place of the Storm Spirit," and another, "Waumbekketmethna," alluding to the *whiteness* of the mountains. The distinctive title of "White" has always been applied to them on account of their peaks being white with snow during ten months of the year.

Even in July and August the bare rocks have a grayish cast, when seen from a distance, which almost entitles them to the name of *white*. These noble hills were first visited in 1732, by a man named Darby Field.

The view from Mt. Pleasant is very extended. It is sufficiently high to place the beholder above all the lower peaks, which in the valleys so often limit the field of view; and yet it is sufficiently remote and below the summit of Washington to enable one to appreciate its grandeur. The view to the south-east is extremely grand; while to the north lies the Valley of the Ammonoosuc, with its attendant ranges.

Franklin and Monroe, with the famous Oake's Gulf, lie between Pleasant and Washington.

Geology of the Mountains.

A geological survey of the State has been in progress, under the direction of Professor C. H. Hitchcock, since 1868. One volume of the final report has already been published, and the second is now in press. From the chapter on the Geology of the White Mountains, in the second volume, we take a few points which will be of general interest; presuming that persons wishing a more thorough acquaintance with the views of the State geologist will seek it in the volumes themselves, which are for sale by the publisher of this Guide.

The rocks of which the mountains are composed are nearly all what are generally classed by the ordinary observer as granite. Yet, to the geologist, there is comparatively little of the pure granite. The mass of the rock is some form of gneiss, or a conglomerate called by Professor Hitchcock Franconia breccia, composed of the same general constituents as the granite or gneiss. Some of the rocks are porphyritic, this term indicating that some of the elements are in a crystalline form.

Feldspar, in its amorphous or crystalline state, — sometimes coarse and sometimes fine, and then again constituting the parts which hold together the other elements of the Franconia breccia, — is an important element in these rocks. Of the flesh-colored feldspar, potash is an important part. This is slowly dissolved on exposure to the air, and causes the crumbling or decay of the rocks, which is so common as to attract the attention of the most casual observer. In Labradorite, this potash of the feldspar is replaced by soda and lime.

Mr. Hitchcock gives the following as his idea of the order in which this region was formed: "First, the Laurentian, represented by porphyritic gneiss and the Bethlehem group. Second, the Atlantic, consisting of the Lake or Berlin and Montalban gneisses and the Franconia breccia. Third, the Labrador. Fourth, the Huronian. Fifth, the Merrimack schists. Sixth, the Andalusite schist group. Seventh, eruptions of porphyry. Eighth, eruptions of the Conway, Albany, and Chocorua granites and sienites. Ninth, the formation of the Mt. Pequawket or Mt. Mote porphyritic breccia."

This theory of formation Professor Hitchcock explains and illustrates by reference to different parts of the mountains, which would be out of place here. His explanation of the formation of the Notch, however, will answer a query, which doubtless rises in the mind of many, even if not asked.

Speaking of the Butterwort and Hitchcock Flumes on Mt. Willard, he calls attention to the fact that the chasm seems to point to the silver cascade on the opposite side of the valley. The manner in which the

flumes are formed by the erosion or decay of trap-rock will be explained hereafter, the theory of which is applicable to these flumes. He then adds: "It may be proper here to state that this dike may once have been continuous from Mt. Willard across the valley to Mt. Webster, through the flume and cascade, at the level of the higher land. At the time of the ejection of the trap, the liquid would have flowed out at the bottom of the valley, and not have reached the summits of the mountains, unless the whole space between were filled up to the brim: therefore the ledge must have been continuous from summit to summit. It would seem to follow in like manner, from the occurrence of numerous dikes in Mt. Webster, that the whole of this Notch valley was once filled with solid rock. The immense depth of this remarkable gorge, from the Gate to Sawyer's Rock, has all been excavated out of solid material by aqueous and glacial agencies, acting constantly since the beginning of the palæozoic time. Possibly its course has been determined by fractures induced during the folding of the strata."

How the flumes were formed is best told in Professor Hitchcock's account of the Franconia Flume: "It is a chasm excavated out of the Conway granite. . . . On the right hand are the natural walls or joints which cut vertically across these rocks all over the mountains. On the left are fainter lines, nearly horizontal, which illustrate the common position of another set of joints, possibly corresponding with the layers of accumulation." The bowlder is of Franconia breccia, and probably came from Eagle Cliff, four miles away, in the glacial period.

It was transferred by ice, and most likely arrived before the formation of the Flume. On following up the stream, one comes to a trap dike consisting of two sorts of material, — the outer, the ordinary dark rock common to this neighborhood; the inner, a gray, friable mass; both, perhaps, twenty-four to thirty inches wide. The occurrence of this dike at once explains the origin of the chasm. The running water wears away the light-colored trap. Then water, percolating the vertical joints back of the eroded space, freezes in the cold weather, and, by the consequent expansion, pushes a mass of rock inwardly till it falls into the stream. During the warmer months, the water is busily engaged in pulverizing the bowlders, assisted by chemical reagents, or the removal of the potash of the feldspar by solution. As soon as there is space for the further action of freezing in the joints, other masses of granite are overthrown and worn away till Nature has succeeded in manufacturing the completed flume. There are, on the right, the remnants of some of the vertical sheets not entirely broken down. It is likely that the regularity or parallelism of the walls has been perfected by the action of the dike upon the rock when in the formative condition."

While it is not possible to give the formation of all parts of the mountains, it may be of interest to note the succession of rocks, in ascending Mt. Washington, as laid down by Professor Hitchcock. He starts at the toll-gate on the carriage-road, directly back of which is a ledge of greenish, somewhat friable quartzite. About three-fourths of a mile up is a face gneissic rock, upon which glacial striæ are obscurely indicated. At the

first mile-post the strata are also gneissic with granitic veins. A small hill on the north-east side is coarse granite, with large crystals of black tourmaline. Before reaching the second mile-post are ferruginous schist, slate interstratified with beds of granite, and, at a sharp angle in the road, minute undulations in the strata, with the rocks mica schist, six feet thickness of granite, and compact quartzite. At the second mile-post is a massive Andalusite rock. Before reaching the third post is a ledge of "argillo-mica schist, quite evenly bedded, well filled with crystals of Andalusite, and of the ordinary slate color. The small curvatures in them are endless, and almost baffle all attempts at description. They resemble billows in the ocean, each three or four feet high; and the positions of their crests and hollows are easily detected. There is one special feature among them of importance; viz., that after a succession of them, for forty, fifty, a hundred feet, or more, are noted, their lower side disappears by plunging vertically into the mountain, and another series of curves with the vertical or westward dip takes their place. There are few places in New Hampshire where these curious phenomena of curves can be observed to better advantage than along this carriage-road." These undulations and variations in the dip continue a long distance. The rock, from a short distance above the trees to the summit, is the "Andalusite mica schist of the Mantalban series." From the summit, towards the Lake of the Clouds, "one walks over immense piles of angular fragments separated from the ledges by internal refrigeration."

There is a remarkable slide on the side of Tripyramid

Mountain, which is always a marked object to those who pass through the Pemigewasset Valley. The account of this slide may shed some light on similar occurrences elsewhere.

"The notable storm, ending Oct. 4, 1869, gave rise to a remarkable freshet upon the south-western slope of the most southern of these pyramids. The mountain-side seems to have been covered by spruces growing above loose blocks, carpeted abundantly with moss, very much as is common all over the White Hills wherever the climate permits temperate vegetation to flourish. No valley furrowed the slope; and it seems difficult to understand why the waters should have accumulated so enormously at this point, and nowhere else in the neighhood, if we may judge by the effect produced, especially since the bare mountain-side exposed at this time has rendered the area conspicuous as a landmark fifty miles away. Clouds are sometimes said to 'burst,' when their contents are poured very quickly into some limited area, most usually when a tornado or rapidly-formed nimbus flits by; and something of that nature, though not approved by the best meteorologists, will best explain the phenomena displayed in Waterville during this never-to-be-forgotten storm.

"The sliding commenced about forty rods from the summit, a little one side of the highest point. The beginning of the bare earth is only a rod in width. The breadth increases gradually for fifty or sixty rods. For the following seventy rods down hill it widens rapidly, attaining, at one hundred and thirty rods' distance, a width of twenty-five or thirty rods. Thirty-six

rods lower, the breadth is seventeen rods. The course is nearly straight to this point, — one hundred and sixty rods, — when it begins to curve towards the north-west, instead of continuing south-westerly; and eighty rods below is what Professor Perkins regarded as a termination of the slide. The waters excavated a gorge through the bowlder-clay or hard-pan of the country, after passing the elbow, often twenty-five feet deep, the material being almost as firm as solid rock. The whole course thus far mentioned is 246 rods, of a general fusiform outline, with the lower end curved to one side. The inclination of the *débris* is often as much as forty-five degrees, perhaps higher for a dozen yards, and generally somewhat less. The underlying ledges appear in two or three places, but do not exhibit any marks or scratches made by the sliding mass.

"The curve at the bottom of the hill is nearly a right angle, and was determined by the configuration of the land; for, directly in the way of the slip, there is a low ridge covered by the universal forest. Were the phenomenon a true slide, the materials would have been arrested by this obstacle. But no more earth lies before this obstruction than along any part of the two or three miles' distance of the steepest descent below. The forest must, therefore, have been torn up by a prodigious freshet, — trees, earth, and rock-fragments mingling with the water, as if all a liquid mass, winding through the curved valley of a stream, and excavating a deeper channel below the turn in its direction." The current descended for nearly two miles below the elbow.

The first dry land in the State (Hitchcock's Report, vol. i. p. 512) consisted of narrow islands of sand and

clay extending north and south. These islands were changed, by the action of steam, heat, and chemical agents, into porphyritic granite and gneiss. Following this was deposited the gneiss in its various forms over an area of two-thirds the present State limits. These rocks have a general north-east and south-west course, and are adjacent to the areas of first dry land. The gneiss, deficient in feldspar and containing crystals of Andalusite, which characterizes the most of the summits, belongs here, as well as the Franconia breccia. In this period came the greatest period of disturbance and elevation. "The force of elevation is a lateral one." "Our theory supposes the existence of a mighty force acting laterally along the whole length of the Atlantic formation, from Canada to Alabama. The power displayed is great enough to shove along the thick horizontal sheet of sediments, and, where the substratum is firm, to fold up a mountain-range resting upon durable foundations." By metamorphism, these sediments were converted into rock at about the time of the elevation. Subsequently came the eruption of igneous rock. "From the Crawford House to Mt. Lafayette, and from the White Mountain House to Mt. Whiteface, and from Franconia to Conway, the country was flooded. Were there ships of steel, they might have floated on this liquid lake; for the surface was as level as the ocean." This overflow was granite. The next periods were active chiefly outside of the White Mountain area till the glacial, when the climate was like that of Greenland, and when the ice covered all the summits except Mt. Washington. The glacial action sculptured the surface of the earth into its present form.

The Fabyan House

is the railroad centre of the White Mountain region. It is the practical terminus of one branch of the Portland and Ogdensburg, and of the Boston, Concord, and Montreal Railroads; and from this point the Mount Washington branch of the latter road starts. With trains starting in four different directions, the station is a busy place in summer.

The natural advantages are very great, and have made it a favorite location from early days. Commanding an exquisite view of Mount Washington and the attendant ranges, with the Ammoonusuc Valley in the foreground reaching to the very base of the loftiest peak, it naturally suggested the easiest, or at least the shortest, approach to the highest summit. The Giant's Grave, a gravel mound, was levelled to make room for the present hotel. The three earlier hotels, of the same name, were burned, giving rise to a current tradition of an Indian curse. The Crawford family burial-lot is but a short distance from the hotel.

The Fabyan House is a spacious building, with large parlor and dining-rooms, and all the appointments of a first-class hotel. It is now kept by A. T. & O. F. Barron, the proprietors of the Crawford and Twin Mountain Houses, and will be under the personal supervision of Mr. Oscar G. Barron.

The Mount Pleasant House

is a small hotel, beautifully situated on the Notch road, about one mile from the Fabyan. It is kept by Leavitt, and will accommodate about seventy-five guests. Price $2.50 per day, with reduction by the week.

A good road leads from here to the Notch. As the distance is only five miles, all the objects of interest in that locality can be visited with Fabyan's as headquarters. A favorite walk for guests of the house is to ascend a spur of Mt. Deception, which, though sufficiently fatiguing for one not accustomed to mountain-climbing, is by no means difficult. The view from the summit, though not remarkable for the region, is still excellent.

The Upper Ammonoosuc Falls

are well worth a visit. A drive of about three miles over the turnpike-road that leads to Marshfield will take you to them. It is a scene of exquisite beauty. The river, confined within narrow gorges, seems to have broken through the rock with the utmost violence: with a zigzag course it continues its way, wearing the foamy whiteness of its boiling waves as a conqueror his well-earned crown. The perpendicular walls of granite stand on either side at different heights, as though to guard this scene of beauty from unwarrantable intrusion.

At some remote period, the river must have flowed at a higher level than at present. Large "pot-holes," six or eight feet in diameter, may be found several feet above the present current, and many smaller ones upon the surface of the upper rocks. In one of the largest may be counted, growing as though in a diminutive parterre, seven or eight different species of vegetation. The rock has been hollowed out with chiselled precision, the soil has gradually accumulated, the seeds have been wafted from various localities, and now the

plants, having germinated and grown in their circular, rock-environed garden, furnish another, out of numberless indications of the faithfulness of nature, in adorning every unsightly object with her creations of beauty.

One can follow the stream through its windings from the top to the bottom of the fall, by clambering along the sides of the miniature precipice, or, by following along the safer path through the woods, can reach the desired point with less trouble and far more security. By taking a station at the foot and looking up through the cleft of the massive rocks, the whole beauty of the Falls can be seen at a glance. The fall of water must be more than fifty feet in a distance of three or four hundred feet. The peculiar structure of the rocky banks, the music of the waters, the requisite intermingling of light and shade, the distant prospect of forest and mountain, make this spot one of the loveliest places of resort for the tourist to be found in the neighborhood.

Ascent of Mount Washington by Rail.

More people now often ascend Mt. Washington in one day than in a whole week before the railroad was completed. Many regret the loss of the old method by the bridle-paths. Certainly these had their charms. The bridle-path from the Crawford House approaches the summit of Mt. Washington over a succession of intervening and inferior mountains. The views which it affords of the abutting ranges and ravines on the one hand, and on the other of a broad expanse of check-

ered light and shade, are unsurpassed in grandeur and beauty; but the fatigue of this method of ascent is by no means slight.

The railroad was designed to obviate this difficulty, and furnish a means of ascent as easy and comfortable as the usual conveyance by rail. The road was commenced in 1866 under the superintendence of Sylvester Marsh, the inventor; and, after three years spent in construction, is now open to the public. The success which has attended the enterprise has been so marked as to almost revolutionize the travel in the mountain region. Few people now visit Mt. Washington without making the journey one way, at least, by rail. This road has also served as the model of a road up the Rhigi in Switzerland, the working plans for which were furnished by Mr. Marsh.

The railroad to the Ammonoosuc Station, where the Mt. Washington Railroad has its terminus, is also now completed, and open for use. One may now leave Boston at a comfortable hour in the morning, and, with only one change of cars, find himself on the summit of Mt. Washington before sunset, and experience no more fatigue than is inseparable from a long car-ride. Trains leave the Fabyan House for the summit of Mt. Washington at 9.20 A. M. and 4.45 P. M. The ride to the base station occupies half an hour. The trains reach the summit at 11.30 A. M. and 6.45 P. M. Returning, the trains leave the summit at 7.15 A. M., connecting with the morning express-train, and at 2 P. M., connecting with the afternoon train to Boston.

The railroad follows up the Ammonoosuc River, climbing the somewhat steep ascent of this celebrated valley. It is six miles and two-thirds from the Fabyan House to the end of the friction rail. The Fabyan House is 1,571 feet above the sea level. The terminus of the road at Ammonoosuc Station is 2,500 feet; making a gain, in the whole distance, of 929 feet. For two and one half miles the grade is 290 feet to the mile, or one foot of perpendicular height to each eighteen feet of horizontal distance. A grade of 200 feet to the mile has heretofore been considered extreme; so that this road, as well as the Mt. Washington, presents some new features of engineering skill. The road takes you into the very heart of the mountains.

For the whole distance, you are drawing nearer and nearer to the mountain-fastnesses; and the great charm of the ride is, that you have the full view of the mountains at all time. You gradually approach an impenetrable mountain-wall, which allows no outlet, save by the narrow thread which winds around the flank and up to the brow of Mt. Washington. At every point, too, this regal mountain stands the monarch of the hills in the centre of his court. The whole chain of dependent peaks may be seen, from Clinton on the south to Madison on the north, with Clay, Jefferson, and Adams standing guard towards the east. The Ammonoosuc Station, where the change is made to the cars of the Mt. Washington Railway, is 1,500 feet from the old terminus of this road at Marshfield.

The terminal station of the railroad is called Marshfield. Besides the railroad-buildings, there is a hotel here, at which some fifty guests can be accommodated, which has been erected since the railroad was opened. The railroad is nearly three miles long, and ascends 3,625 feet, starting from a point 2,668 feet above tide-water. The maximum grade is 1,980 feet to the mile, or a little more than one foot in three; while the average is very nearly one foot in four. The construction of the road was commenced in 1866, and it was completed in 1869. The whole cost of the road and equipment is not far from $150,000. The road is built in the most substantial manner, of timber, interlaced and bolted, resting on the solid rock of the mountain-side. Besides the usual rails, there is a centre rail of peculiar construction to receive the motive-power. It consists of two bars of iron, with connecting cross-pieces at a distance of every four inches. This rail may be well called "Jacob's Ladder," and thus preserve the memory of one of the steepest parts of the old pathway on the same location. A centre cog-wheel on the locomotive plays into this rail, and secures a sure and steady mode of ascent and descent.

The locomotive, as it first comes out of the house, has the appearance of being ready to fall over. As soon as it commences the ascent it stands upright, the slant being given to it to secure more uniform action. The driving-wheel is geared into a smaller wheel, which connects directly with the crank. Four revolutions of the engine are required to make one of the driving-wheel, thus sac-

rificing speed to power. The engine is not connected to the car, but simply pushes the car up the track. On the return it allows the car to follow it down at a slow rate of speed.

To protect the train from accident, a wrought-iron dog constantly plays into notches on the driving-wheel, so that, if any part of the machinery gives way, the train is arrested where it is. There are also the usual friction brakes, and, in addition, atmospheric brakes on each side of the car. These last alone are sufficient to stop the car, and hold it in any position. No accident has yet occurred by which any passenger has been injured in the slightest manner; and, from the many precautions taken, there is no reason to fear one.

The cars are comfortable and easy, and the trip is made without danger or fatigue. The cars are provided with seats placed at an angle, which brings them nearly on a level on the ascent. They all face down the mountain. There is, however, an aisle in the car, and platforms at each end, so that views may be had from all directions.

The fare from the Fabyan House to the Summit and return is $6; one way, $4. Trunks, on the road up the mountain, are extra.

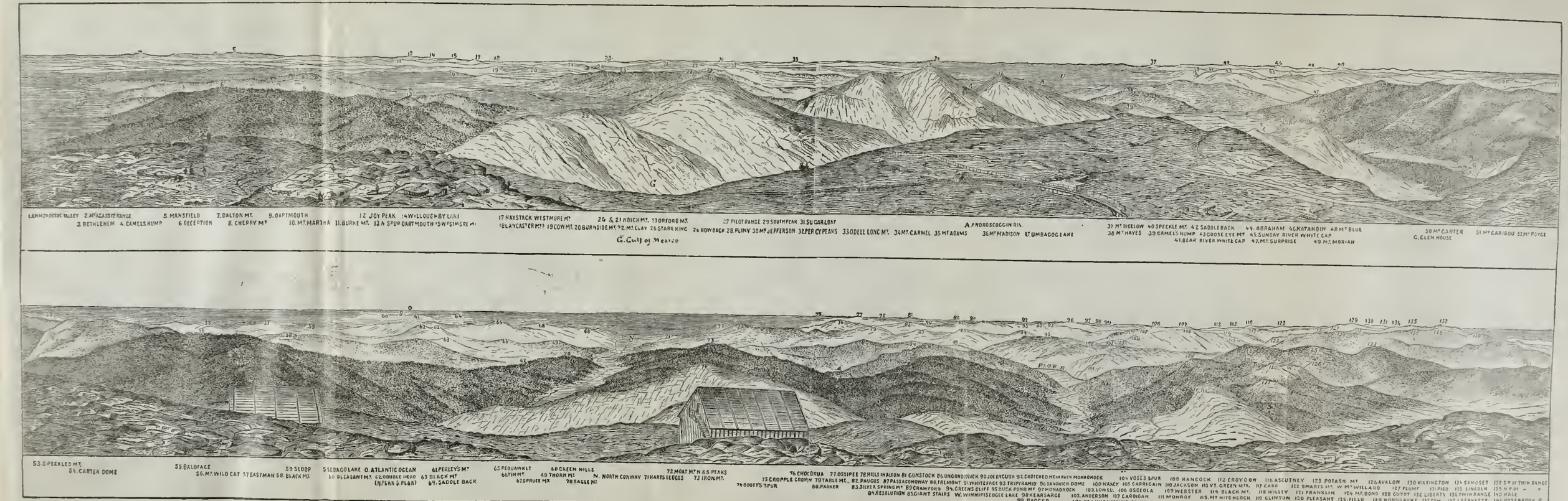
The time occupied by the ascent on the railroad is about an hour and a half. The engine has to stop several times on the way to take in water. At first starting, this method of travelling being, to say the least, novel, the attention is naturally directed to the manner in which you are gradually forced up hill. Too much

time should not, however, be spent in observing the mechanism. Unlike the other roads, almost from the moment when you leave the depot, a series of views is spread out before you of unsurpassing loveliness. The elevation of the track, which is nowhere absolutely on the ground, is sufficient to enable you to see over the tops of the trees and enjoy an uninterrupted view of all the country spread out at your feet.

At first you look back upon the valley through which you have passed, and easily trace the windings of the turnpike. You catch an occasional glimpse of the river as it plays in and out of the forest. As you gain the ascent the view widens, and Cherry Mountain, Jefferson, and a broad vista of plain and mountain breaks upon the view. Gradually the trees of the temperate zone are left behind, and the shrubs and flora of Labrador and Greenland make their appearance. You can soon, also, see over the south wall, which so jealously limited your vision as you drove up the valley. On reaching the main ridge between Clay and Washington, you have on the left of the track, facing up the mountain, the huge "Gulf of Mexico," an immense amphitheatre or ravine, down which you can look for an almost sheer descent of a thousand feet. Here you come upon a view to the east, towards the ocean, and at the base of the mountain, in the Peabody Valley, is the Glen House.

The time occupied in the descent is less than is required for the upward trip. Steam is not used, the atmospheric brakes being sufficient to regulate the speed.

VIEW FROM THE SUMMIT OF MOUNT WASHINGTON.



The cars stop at the platform in front of the hotel. Though the ascent is now relieved of all the exposure to storm, and of much of the fatigue, that attended the old method of ascent, one must not forget that there is no summer on Mt. Washington, even if there is occasionally a warm, pleasant day, when the winds are not rough. As a rule, the days as well as the nights are apt to be uncomfortably cold, unless one is very warmly dressed. The thickest overcoats and the warmest shawls and wraps will be no burden here, however sultry may be the weather below.

The View.

Although the view from the Summit has already been described in connection with the ascent from the Glen, the following enumeration, from Oakes's White Mountain Scenery, of the objects of interest, visible on a clear day, may be of use to the tourist. "In the west, through the blue haze, are seen in the distance the ranges of the Green Mountains; the remarkable outlines of the summits of Camel's Hump and Mansfield Mountain being easily distinguished when the atmosphere is clear. To the north-west, under your feet, are the clearings and settlements of Jefferson, the waters of Cherry Pond, and, farther distant, the village of Lancaster, with the waters of Israel's River. The Connecticut is not visible, but often, at morning and evening, its appearance is counterfeited by the fog rising from its surface. To the north and north-east, only a few miles distant, rise up boldly the great north-

eastern peaks of the White Mountain range, — Jefferson, Adams and Madison, — with their ragged tops of loose, dark rocks. A little farther to the east are seen the numerous and distant summits of Maine. On the south-east, close at hand, are the dark and crowded ridges of the mountains in Jackson; and beyond, the conical summit of Kiarsarge, standing by itself on the outskirts of the mountains; and farther, over the low country of Maine, Sebago Pond, near Portland. Still farther, it is said, the ocean itself has sometimes been distinctly visible. The White Mountains are often seen from the sea, even at thirty miles' distance from the shore, and nothing can prevent the sea from being seen from the mountains but the difficulty of distinguishing its appearance from that of the sky near the horizon. Farther to the south are the intervals of the Saco, and the settlements of Bartlett and Conway, the sister ponds of Lovwell, in Fryeburg, and still farther, the remarkable four-toothed summit of Chocorua, the peak to the right much the largest and sharply pyramidal. Almost exactly south are the shining waters of the beautiful Winnipesaukee, seen with the greatest distinctness in a favorable day. To the south-west, near at hand, are the peaks of the south-western range of the White Mountains; Monroe, with its two little Alpine ponds sleeping under its rocky and pointed summit; the flat surface of Franklin, and the rounded tops of Mt. Pleasant, with their ridges and spurs. Beyond these the Willey Mountain, with its high, ridged summit; and beyond that several parallel ranges of high,

wooded mountains. Farther west, and over all, is seen the high, bare summit of Mt. Lafayette, in Franconia.

"At your feet is the broad valley surrounded by mountains, through which wind deviously the sources of the Ammonoosuc, with its clearing at its farther extremity, and the Mt. Washington House; and beyond this, at twenty miles' distance, the little village of Bethlehem is dimly visible."

The White Mountain House,

about half a mile from the Fabyan, is kept by R. D. Rounsevel. It is a very pleasantly situated and quiet house, in the midst of an open tract of country. In the rear is a fine view of the White Mountains; and in front, beyond the Ammonoosuc, rises the lofty range which connects the Great Notch with Franconia.

Lower Ammonoosuc Falls.

A short distance from the hotel, on the left of the highway, are the famous Falls of the Ammonoosuc. This stream is said to be the wildest and most rapid of all the rivers of New Hampshire, falling more than a mile in its course of thirty miles from Mt. Washington to the Connecticut River. It has many cascades, some of which are higher than this; but none were more attractive till spoiled by the erection of a dam. Here the water issues from a forest of evergreens, and leaps down thirty feet over broad steps of granite. The rocks on each side seem laid in courses, as if by the hand of a mason.

The Twin Mountain House

is on the bank of the Ammonoosuc River, five miles from Fabyan's. The railroad station is on the opposite side of the river, immediately in front of the hotel. The house was built in 1870, and has always maintained a high reputation. It will accommodate about 250 guests. The prices are the same as at the Crawford House, which is under the same management. Mr. Beecher makes this hotel his headquarters when in the mountains, usually preaching on Sundays. The proprietors have made every exertion to make the surroundings attractive. The pond, made by a dam across the river, is furnished with boats, which are much used.

Bethlehem Station

is ten miles from Fabyan's. At this station will be found in waiting coaches for Bethlehem Village (two miles), and it is also one of the termini of the narrow-gauge road to the Profile House.

Bethlehem Village

is reached by a steadily rising road, which gradually discloses a broad view of the surrounding country. It is beautifully situated on high ground (1,450 feet above sea level), and is famous for its view of the whole range of the White Mountains. You feel a greater satisfaction in surveying them from this place than from any other point where the view is so comprehensive. Towards the north-west are some noble white marble mountains in Vermont, appearing

clothed in a garment of snow from base to summit. The whole northern and western horizon is jagged with mountain-summits, softening into beauty and grace in the mellow light of summer sunsets. Bethlehem is a place of great attraction for persons spending the summer in this region. Many are attracted here by the immunity which it shares, with other places in the mountains, from the autumnal catarrh.

The Maplewood Hotel and cottages are first reached. This is a large, new hotel, capable of accommodating 400 guests. The Sinclair House, by Durgin & Fox, is nearly at the other end of the street, and has accommodation for 300 guests. The whole street is a row of hotels and boarding-houses, the names and prices of which are given in the list of boarding-houses at the end of the book. The town presents a lively appearance during the summer months.

There are a great many drives of unusual attractiveness in this vicinity, which can easily be found by those who make any stay here. Mount Agassiz (2,050 feet high) is about two miles south-east of the village. The path is an easy one. This was formerly called Peaked Hill, and received its present name in honor of Professor Agassiz, who was greatly interested in the glacial indications in this vicinity. The view from this summit is very extensive. The whole village of Bethlehem is so elevated above the valleys to the Notch, that the view from all parts of it is extensive and varied.

Professor Agassiz wrote the following about the glaciers of this region: "Those familiar with the topography of the Franconia range, and its relations to Peaked Hill and the slope of Bethlehem, will at once perceive that the glaciers which deposited the front moraine to the north of Bethlehem Village must have filled the Valley of Franconia to and above the level of the saddle of Peaked Hill, making it 1,500 feet thick, if not more, — thicker, in short, than any of the present glaciers of Switzerland. It will be observed, also, that, as soon as the north portion of that glacier had retreated to the wall which encircles the Franconia Valley on the north, the glacier, occupying henceforth a more protected valley within the range, must have made a halt, and accumulated at this point, that is, south and west of the saddle of Peaked Hill, a very large terminal moraine."

The Profile House

is now easily reached by the narrow-gauge railroad built from Bethlehem station. It is about ten miles long. The difference in elevations between the two termini of the road is about 750 feet. The road winds around the hills of the Bethlehem range, crosses the upper end of the Franconia Valley, and then creeps up the side of Lafayette, until it enters the Notch east of Bald Mountain and on the east side of Echo Lake. Many will doubtless regret the beautiful views obtained from the Bethlehem hills; but they will at least be spared the often hot and dusty ride through the Franconia Valley. There are many fine views of the same valley to be obtained from the cars. The fare is $1.50.

Franconia Notch and its Neighborhood.

The Franconia range of hills, though properly belonging to the White Mountain range, is still so distinct and peculiar in its character as to deserve a lengthened notice. The beauties of the surrounding scenery entitle it to all the admiration which the tourist bestows upon it. Indeed, by old *habitués* of the region, Franconia is considered the gem of the mountains. There is not the overpowering grandeur which belongs to the White Mountains, while the greater variety of interesting objects amply compensates for the absence of more stately scenes. The quiet beauty and the repose of nature in the Franconia Notch may well introduce the traveller to the higher sublimity beyond, or refresh him as he retires from the powerful influence which he has felt before the majesty of the Notch. There is a tranquillity in the former feeling, and a sense of relief in the latter, which prepares or soothes the mind. Here is rest; here is comfort. Beneath the shadow of these solemn mountains the weary soul finds composure. Selfishness and worldliness are rebuked. The most thoughtless are hushed to reflection, and a better understanding of life grows up in the midst of Nature's grand instructions. We do not suppose our tourist is in quest of mere pleasure; we believe him to be a better and nobler man than to spend his days thus. He is open to every good influence that will make life more rich, and beautiful, and fair. There is no better influence than that of which he will be sensible in the still retreat of Franconia.

The Profile House,

a new and large hotel, of the very best and most comfortable accommodations, is situated in the immediate vicinity of Echo Lake, Cannon Mountain, Eagle Cliff, The Profile, and Mount Lafayette. It is on a level plain, a few acres in area, in the bosom of the hills. It has two approaches: on the north, from Bethlehem and Littleton — on the south, from the Flume House and the Pemigewasset Valley. Of the approach from Littleton we have elsewhere written. From Bethlehem, over the road from Crawford's, the approach is sometimes startling in its effect. The views shift with great rapidity; at one time are wholly concealed, at another break forth upon the traveller with surprising abruptness. Going up the slow ascent of the hill east of Bethlehem, with the Mount Washington range behind, the Franconia mountains on the left, and all northern New Hampshire on the right, the landscape is most enchanting. One almost wishes the hill longer. The village of Bethlehem itself is most picturesquely situated, and commands a view of wide expanse. But beyond it is a hill tedious to climb, with scarcely a compensating scene to look upon, and one begins to wonder where the vaunted glories of the region are to be found. But on reaching the top of the hill a magnificent prospect stretches before him. Across the

Franconia valley rise the lofty summits of Lafayette, with his seamed and scarred sides, and the kindred mountains standing like sentinels to guard the pass against profane intruders. Their irregularity is most picturesque, while, at the same time, they are most finely grouped. They stand out in most august proportions, relieved by the dark blue of the clear summer sky. We ride down the hill into the little village of Franconia, in a state of mingled admiration and awe. Then, entering the forest, we pass beneath its leafy arches to the rest and enjoyment of our temporary home.

The Profile House, improved by successive enlargements, is now excelled by no hotel in the State. The parlor wing, with a parlor 100 by 50 feet, contains many new rooms. The new dining-hall is a fine room, of about the same size as the parlor. The public rooms and hall are lighted with gas. The hotel is also supplied with bath rooms. About four hundred guests can now be accommodated in this hotel. During the heighth of the season, the spacious corridors and piazzas present a lively appearance. Two cottages for families have also been built just south of the house. Messrs. Taft and Greenleaf, the proprietors, have been so long identified with the locality, that their reputation, as well as the good name of the house, is entirely independent of any praises of a guide book. If faithful attention, clean rooms, — such as Izaak Walton loved, — a profuse table, and beauty of locality

can furnish a desirable resting-place for the traveller, these are all to be found in this favored spot. The location of this hotel between the mountain-peaks, the clear bracing air of the Notch, and the pure water of the hills, combine in giving one an excellent appetite and good digestion. This hotel has long been a favorite tarrying-place for those accustomed to spend their leisure time among the mountains; and every year only adds to its popularity. A telegraph-office, post-office, book-stand, and barber-shop are in the hotel.

Echo Lake.

In the woods to the north of the hotel, a short distance from the road over which we have just travelled, lies imbosomed Echo Lake. It is a sheet of water of great depth and transparency, and, as it sleeps there in its secure repose, seems the very type of rest. All around rise the green hills of the region, Lafayette lifting his rocky summit high above them all. The setting is appropriate for this exquisite gem. One never wearies of the quiet scene. The lake is well supplied with boats, by means of which one may visit the different points where the best views may be obtained. Here are the centres of the most marvellous echoes. The sounds of a tin horn, blown with skill, will be returned in oft-repeated notes like the sweetest music. The human voice, shouting distinctly, will be re-echoed with wonderful effect, as though the invisible inhabitants of the hills were holding a colloquy with "the babbling gossip of the air." The report of a cannon fired on the shore will reverberate like peals of

thunder among the fastnesses of the mountains. In the stillness of morning, or in the quiet of the evening at the sunset hour, the lake is the resort of those who best know and can appreciate the wonders of the place. The wind is whist; the waters sleep; the mountains are silent; the purple glow is on all the trees and rocks. Then is the time to wake the slumbering echoes, and hear the many voices that reply. He who has not visited this lovely spot at this bewitching time, does not understand half the magical, secret beauty which lingers around Echo Lake.

Eagle Cliff.

Almost directly overhanging the hotel, on the north, is Eagle Cliff. It is a huge, columnar crag, separated from the crest of the mountain, and rising perpendicularly, with jagged rocks, seemingly ready to topple from its place in wide-spread ruin beneath. This precipitous cliff derives its name from the fact that it was chosen for an eyry by a pair of eagles several years ago. They were often to be seen circling around its summit, and looking down, as though with disdain, upon the gazing crowds below, who have invaded their solitude. But two or three years ago they were driven away by some over-curious explorers of their nests. No prouder position could be chosen for a habitation by this noble bird. It stands out in the picture a most prominent and majestic peak. Approached from the south, it is finely portrayed upon the background of the sky. A point about three fourths of a mile distant,

upon the border of Ferrin's Pond, or Profile Lake, furnishes the finest view. Its lofty crags are distinctly seen, as though rising from a bed of deepest green, formed by the luxuriant birches and vines that attempt to clamber up its sides. At sunrise or sunset, when all is dark in the valley, the rosy light softens the rude outline, and it shines out in clear brightness above the mists below. As you sit on the piazza of the hotel the cliff looms before you in gigantic proportions, a study for the present, and a glorious memory for the future to recall.

Profile Mountain.

Directly opposite Eagle Cliff, on the south side of the Notch, rises Cannon, or, as we prefer to call it, Profile Mountain. The former name is given on account of a supposed resemblance to a cannon which a rock upon its summit exhibits. The latter more appropriately belongs to it, since it bears upon the southern extremity of its crest the "Great Stone Face." The mountain is ascended by means of a footpath which seems to lead almost directly from the front of the hotel to the summit.

The ascent is somewhat difficult, requiring about two hours of wearisome climbing. But the extended prospect at the end of the journey amply compensates all the toils of the way. The view from the platform of denuded rock above, down the valley of the Pemigewasset, surpasses description. Nothing more beautiful will be found in this region. The silvery stream,

the quiet forests, the verdant meadows, the placid lakes, the clustering villages along the winding road, unite in a picture of enchanting loveliness. The surrounding peaks, and the towering heights of Washington and its peers, with the softly-swelling hills sloping away to the south, present all that one can imagine of the grand and of the beautiful in mountain scenery. A visit to Franconia is incomplete without the ascent of Profile Mountain. An outlay of a few dollars would complete an excellent saddle-path to its summit.

Bald Mountain.

There is, also, another pleasant mountain trip, even more immediately within the reach of every one than the ascent of Profile Mountain. The carriage road to this summit is out of repair. But the distance from the hotel is only a mile and half, and the walk is by no means difficult. The path leaves the highway to the right, at the top of the hill, about a mile from the Profile House. This is now a favorite sunset view, and there is no other point, near the hotel, that will so amply repay one for the slight exertion required. From the summit, you see spread out before in the foreground, the broad basin of the Franconia valley, with the Bethlehem hills and the peaks of northern New Hampshire and Vermont in the distance. Towards the south, you have a fine view of the Notch, with Profile Lake at your feet, and Lafayette towering up above you toward the east, whose rugged rocks, glowing in the evening sunshine, change to purple as the shadows of Mt. Cannon creep

up from the valley. Carriages can be had, if desired, in which you can ride to within half a mile of the summit.

Cascade.

Immediately behind the Profile House there is a cascade, which, from the facility with which it may be reached by the tourist, deserves our notice. A path, entering the woods in the rear of the old Lafayette House, and following the aqueduct which supplies the hotel with water, conducts, in a short and pleasant walk, to a brook, which, when swollen by a recent rain, presents a succession of cascades that will amply repay a visit. The bed of the brook lies for a long distance over a shelving ledge of sufficient extent to impress one adequately with the gigantic framework of our granite hills. This feature of the scene, together with the charming glimpses of Echo Lake and the surrounding mountains which are caught in the ascent, will render a visit to this cascade pleasant at any time. At one point a most exquisite view is obtained of the northern part of the Ammonoosuc valley. But only after a heavy rain, or amid melting snows, is this cascade seen to advantage, and one will often desire some such arrangement for displaying its capabilities as exists at the Catskill Falls. The best time to make a visit to this spot is at the close of day, before sunset, when, through the openings of the wood, the surrounding scenery appears in all its beauty. The view of Echo Lake and of the hills and woodland beyond, reaching far towards the Ammonoosuc, is of such exquisite

beauty that it alone will repay one for a visit to the cascades.

The great marvel and pride of this region is the

Profile.

As we walk down the road to the south of the hotel, we soon come to a rude bench by the wayside, and, attracted by the guide-board above it, inscribed with the single, simple word, "Profile," as we direct our eyes to the point which it indicates, the huge face, with all its features thoroughly delineated, stands out in bold outline before our sight. There it is, a colossal, completely symmetrical profile, looking down upon the valley from its lofty height, perfectly distinct and clear. The tourist may possibly think that this, like other wonderful stories of which veracious guide-books tell, may be a myth, and that the similarity may exist only in the fancy of the writer. But no! This time, at least, he will acknowledge that there is no delusion. Nature has carved out, with the most accurate chiselling, this astonishing sculpture. Every portion of the face is there upon the solid mountain steep. There is the stern, projecting, massive brow, as though stamped with the thought and wisdom of centuries. The nose is straight, finely cut, and sharply outlined. The thin, senile lips are parted, as though about to utter the thunders of majestic speech. The chin is well thrown forward, with exact proportionate length, betokening the hard, obstinate character of the "Old Man," who has faced, with such unmoving steadiness, the storms

of ages. The Sphinx of the Desert must acknowledge its inferiority to this marvellous face upon the mountain. When seen in the morning, as the mists float up from the valley beneath and along its ponderous features, it looms into larger proportions still, and with the heavy gray beard, which sometimes settles upon its chin, and down its breast, it seems like the face of some hoary patriarch of antiquity. Some one has made the remark that "as men are accustomed to hang out before their shop doors certain signs to designate their respective occupations, so here God has sculptured this great Face to show that in these regions he makes MEN."

"It is not advisable," says one of the admirers of the Old Man of the Mountain, "to go to take your first look at him when the sun lights up the chasm of his granite cheek and the cavernous mystery of his bent brow. Go to him when, in the solemn light of evening, the mountain heaves up from the darkening lake its vast wave of luxuriant foliage. Sit on one of those rocks by the roadside, and look, if you can, without awe, at the Granite Face, human in its lineaments,

supernatural in its size and position, weird-like in its shadowy mystery, but its sharp outline wearing an expression of mortal sadness, that gives it the most fascinating interest." The view in the margin is an exact representation of the Profile alone, as it appears to the observer. It was doubt-

less an object of veneration to the aboriginal inhabitants. Various traditionary tales are yet extant respecting the superstitious homage once paid to it by the Indian tribes who frequented the locality. Relics of their life, and singular utensils of a former generation, have been found near it. To the whites, however, it has been little known till within the last fifty years. In the early part of the present century the road that passes along this way was laid out, and in clearing the land of the trees that impeded the path the Profile was discovered. Since that time it has been an object of the most absorbing interest. The genius of Hawthorne has embalmed it in our literature, and his story of "The Great Stone Face" can only be read appreciatively beneath its shadow. We give a view of the "Old Man," engraved from a photograph.

To those who are curious in exploration, the opportunity is easily improved of ascending by a footpath across the summit of the mountain to the point above the profile. It has been ascertained that the height of the "Old Man" is very nearly twelve hundred feet above the level of the little lake below it, and that the length of the face is from thirty to forty feet. In the many conflicts with the elements which it has endured, it has been roughened and scarred. But from the road no such appearance is presented, except through a telescope, and the face appears fair and smooth. The precipice, of which it forms the extremity, is not unlike the palisades of the Hudson in appearance. It extends for nearly two miles along the escarp-

ment of the mountain, and is a prominent part of the scenery of the section. The Profile itself undergoes many changes, according to the point of observation. It changes from its severe facial outline to a jagged and apparently shapeless mass of rocks, or to a face with a flat forehead, or with a huge Roman nose, or to the unmeaning and retreating countenance of some wild animal. It is only at the place where the guide board is erected that the Profile is to be most distinctly seen. One can spend an hour or two no more profitably than by gazing upon its fascinating and wonderful linea-

ments; and he will return to look upon it once more, that it may be the last remembrance, ere he bids farewell to this delightful spot.

Profile Lake.

Immediately below the Face, as though Nature would provide for her creation an appropriate mirror, nestles the beautiful sheet of water, Profile Lake. From the seat on the margin is one of the best views of the Profile. Here also, as on Echo Lake, are boats for use of the guests. The lake has been sometimes called the Old Man's Mirror, and more prosaically the Old Man's Washbowl. By whatever name it may be called, no appellation will ever detract from or add to its simple loveliness. It lies there, surrounded by rich, rolling forests, and above it the precipitous mountain. Its crystal depths reflect the overhanging trees, and its bright expanse smiles joyously in the sunlight. The very finest trout live in its waters, — as though only the choicest and most delicate of fish were suited to inhabit such a pure abode. We cannot help thinking how the Greek love of the beautiful would have peopled all this region with the creations of its sacred mythology. Even the cold fancy of Occidental nature warms beneath the genial influence, and breaks forth in the most demonstrative admiration.

Mt. Lafayette

is twelve hundred feet below Mt. Washington in height,

and the view from its summit is thought by many to equal that from its rival's crest. A good foot path leads up its rocky sides; and the persevering lover of Nature, who is not afraid to make exertion, and is willing to expend his strength, will be most abundantly rewarded for his labors. Horses are kept in readiness for the ascent of this lofty peak, which can be secured on application at the office of the hotel, with a guide, for $3.50 for each person. The trip can be made either on foot or horseback, in the forenoon or afternoon, without difficulty.

The path enters the woods nearly opposite the hotel, and almost immediately begins the ascent. It winds up the ravine just south of Eagle Cliff, and, at a distance of about a mile from the hotel, winds along under the base of the upper part of the cliff on a level stretch of about a fourth of a mile. Not long after leaving the hotel, there is an excellent view of the Profile; otherwise you are nearly all the way concealed in the woods. Eagle Cliff is almost entirely composed of the Franconia breccia, of which mention has been made, composed of silicious rocks cemented by a feldspathic paste, with great sheets of granite in the Notch between the Cliff and Lafayette. After passing Eagle Cliff, the path turns to the right; and a steady ascent of another mile brings you to the thick dwarf spruce, and soon to the bare rock near the lake. The northern view is, from this point, delightful, and in a clear day exhibits a beautiful panorama of river, plain, village, and surrounding hills. The path now strikes

off to the left towards the summit, which is in plain sight for the remainder of the way. The same phenomena of vegetation appear here as upon Mt. Washington, — the stunted trees, the alpine flowers, the mosses clinging to the rocks. Still the path winds gently on, approaching the summit by a long but not wearisome ascent.

At last the goal is reached, and comfortable shelter is found in a house erected in that lonely spot for the accommodation of visitors. After a momentary rest, the wide prospect invites the eye. The southern valley of the Pemigewasset opens its beauties, showing its charming contour for a distance of forty miles, as far as Plymouth. On the east, Washington rears his imperial head, with his attendant range. North-eastwardly, pointed Katahdin cleaves the air, and the white hills of Stratford gleam in the north. Passing around the horizon, the eye rests admiringly upon the softened outline of northern New Hampshire and Vermont, the rounded summits of the Green Mountains, the sloping country of the south-west, broken by Monadnock and Kearsarge. Directly beneath the eye are the Profile, Echo Lake, — like a crystal gem in its emerald setting, — the pleasant farms of Lisbon and Landaff; while a little farther yet, as it were nestling around its base. are the villages of Littleton and Bethlehem, and farther still, Wells River, and the towns in the Connecticut Valley. Altogether, it is a view more beautiful, in some respects, though it may be less grand and majestic,

than that from Washington. Here, indeed, as Bryant sings of Monument Mountain, —

> * * * "Thou shalt not look
> Upon the green and rolling forest tops,
> And down the secrets of the glens
> And streams that, with their bordering thickets, strive
> To hide their windings. Thou shalt gaze, at once,
> Here on white villages, and tilth, and herds,
> And swarming roads; and there on solitudes
> That only hear the torrent, and the wind,
> And eagle's shriek. * * * The scene
> Is lovely round; a beautiful river there
> Wanders amid the fresh and fertile meads,
> The Paradise He made unto himself,
> Mining the soil for ages. On each side
> The fields swell upward to the hills; beyond,
> Above the hills, in the blue distance, rise
> The mountain columns with which earth props heaven."

There is upon the mountain, located on one of its most inaccessible points, a strange-looking stone, of large size and unusual form. It was named by those who discovered it, "The Altar," from a fancied resemblance which they discerned to the old Runic remains of a similar character. The mountains have always been sacred places. Olympus has its classic fame as the seat of Jove; Sinai, Horeb, and Carmel have their divine associations; Olivet is held in affectionate veneration, as there seem to linger, even yet, among its wooded heights, the accents of the Saviour's voice of prayer. Lafayette might well awe the rude worshippers of the forest and the wild, and teach them of the presence of the Great Spirit.

Besides these attractions immediately about the Pro-

file House, there are others in the Valley of the Notch, and within easy reach, which the traveller must not fail to visit, unless he would render his tour incomplete.

The Trout House

is about a mile south of the hotel, where several hundreds of this beautiful fish are kept for breeding purposes. The fish are nearly all in the house and have become quite tame.

Walker's Falls

are not much visited, but are not the less attractive on that account. Half a mile below the clearing, where the bridle-path up Lafayette begins, a mountain brook crosses the road. By following up this, or by striking into the woods a little earlier will be found, after a walk of half a mile, the first of the falls to which this name is given. As the quantity of water is never very large, and the perpendicular descent less than in many other mountain streams, these falls will doubtless be overlooked by many. But

> "In the wood's dark coolness,
> Where the path grows rougher and more steep,
> Where the trees stand thick in leafy fulness,
> And the moss lies green in shadows deep,"—

is one of the most picturesque of the mountain cascades. Were the water away, you would see a regular succession of stone steps extending across the whole breadth of the bed of the stream. For a distance of about thirty

feet the water glides over these, dissolving into spray, in which a rainbow is almost always to be seen as you stand at the base. But clambering through the woods, you stand at the head of this cascade, and now, immediately above you, the water rushes down a descent of not less than fifty feet. The fall is irregular, being broken here and there by the huge blocks of granite, against which the water dashes with a rage which is lost in foam.

Half a mile farther on there is a longer and more picturesque fall. It descends at one leap a distance of about sixty feet, while above this, too, there are long and tumultuous slides over the rocks which tenant all the hill-sides. The sides of the brook are of precipitous rocks, somewhat resembling those of the Flume, though not so high nor so contracted. A forenoon or an afternoon will suffice for the ramble, which will be found exceedingly satisfactory.

Proceeding another mile to the south, we reach

The Basin.

The waters of the Pemigewasset, flowing from Profile Lake, after tumbling in many a beautiful cascade over the rocks that lie in their course, find their way, with many meanderings, to this point near the roadside. Here they fall over a rocky ledge, a few feet in height, into a deep hollow in the solid granite. The diameter of this rocky basin, formed by the continual action of the water and mingled stones and bowlders from above, is about thirty feet in its shortest width,

and forty feet in its longest. Its circumference is not far from sixty feet. Its depth is of such proportions, — ordinarily of fifteen feet, — as to form a by no means shallow bowl, which is always filled with cold, pure, and pellucid water. On one side the rocks jut ever the mimic depths, forming a dam for the flowing stream, thus producing the most exquisite of waterfalls. The embankment surrounding it is covered, in the proper season, with green mosses and sweet flowers, with their delicate bells

"Tolling their perfume on the passing air."

At the other extremity, where the delivered waters, free from their temporary imprisonment, make their way out, singing as they go, is a fissure in the rock, forming another little waterfall. Upon one side is a peculiar conformation of the granite, which, by a slight stretch of the fancy, can be said to resemble a titanic leg and foot, scooped out and polished by the ever-flowing current. As you look down into these transparent waters, the bed of the basin can be distinctly seen, so fair and clear is their emerald purity. One is almost tempted to fling aside his outer garments and plunge into this luxurious and delicious bath. It is certainly fit for the ablutions of a goddess. There is a peculiar and almost magical charm about the basin, which enchains you to its margin, and will not let you go free. You are obliged at last to tear yourself away, with many regrets that the time of your sojourn amid these beautiful haunts of Nature is so brief. But

"A thing of beauty is a joy forever."

and your recollection will often recur to these distant scenes, as you live over again, in delighted memory, the joys of other days.

Cascades.

A rude bridge of logs is thrown across the brook at the outlet of the Basin, more for purposes of convenience than as an enhancement of the beauty of the spot. Crossing this, and following up the path for about two hundred rods, one discovers a succession of cascades of the most exquisite loveliness. The path is not very well worn, but can be easily traced. The tourist must follow it to its end, and he will pronounce this to be one of the most enchanting places in the region. The cascades show an infinite variety of beautiful forms, and end at last in a waterfall through a narrow cleft in the rocks of the hillside, of twenty or thirty feet in height. The banks of the stream are lined with the richest foliage, and openings among the trees disclose at intervals the rugged sides of Lafayette. The majority of travellers do not explore this region, but are contented with a passing glance at the Basin, and thereby lose almost the finest portion of the scenery. The best way to enjoy these places is to ramble about at one's own sweet will, and meet with surprises at every step, as Nature presents her pictures. Let no one forget to examine the course of the little stream now before him. He will find all along its way the most numerous objects to give him pleasure and satisfaction.

A mile or two farther, and we reach the

Flume House.

No site can be more full of beauty than that which is occupied by this hotel. Directly in front is Mt. Liberty, with its fancied resemblance to the profile of George Washington, closing the view of the "forest primeval," with its shades of rich green foliage, its quiet groves, and its soft and pleasant paths. On the north is the picturesque Notch, with all its surroundings, in bold outline. From the southern piazza, the whole Pemigewasset valley is in sight, unequalled for the variety which the wide prospect exhibits. No one can sit on this piazza at the close of day, to watch the glories of the sunset, and note the charming effects produced on "hill and dale, and pleasant intervale," without rejoicing in the good fortune which led him to make the Flume House his temporary home. The hotel, though having rooms for only forty guests, is new and commodious. It is kept by the proprietors of the Profile House and a hotel is now open on this site for the first time for several years.

The Flume and the Cascades.

In the immediate neighborhood of the Flume House are the three chief remaining objects of interest at the Franconia mountains. These are the Flume, the Cascade, and the Pool. The former is in a southeasterly direction from the hotel, about three quarters of a mile distant. A good road leads to the lower

part of the CASCADE below the Flume. Thence, a footpath leads up the course of the stream. Crossing and recrossing at intervals, clambering up the sides of steep rocks, again following the bed of the stream itself, one finds at every forward movement something to admire. The Cascade is a continuous fall — a sheet of molten silver, on the smooth and polished rock — of more than six hundred feet. The descent is very gradual, with occasional abruptness. With the murmur of its waters in the ear, and its marvellous beauty in the eye, we ascend to the Flume itself. No more wild and striking view can be imagined. For seven or eight hundred feet or more the stream pours its volume along a rocky bed, which breaks it up into numberless waterfalls, between two mural precipices, that lift themselves on either side, crowned with the abundant foliage of the forest. The height of these walls is from sixty to seventy feet. The width between them is a general average of twenty feet, except at the upper end. Here the walls approach each other. Suddenly contracting to about ten feet, they hold, suspended between them, about midway up their sides, a huge bowlder of granite. So nicely is it adjusted, and so slight appears its hold, that one would think the gentlest touch sufficient to push it from its resting-place into the ravine below. By what process it has fallen into its present position — indeed, in what manner this remarkable fracture of the rock has taken place — is a puzzle for scientific heads. Its presence greatly adds to the

wildness of the scene. We are content with that, and do not care to speculate about its cause. In general, one can follow the stream through this narrow gorge, — not without trepidation as he passes beneath the suspended mass, — and, by climbing the rocky heights, can obtain a capital view from above. The trunk of a tree lies across the chasm, forming a temporary and precarious bridge. We would suggest to the proprietors of the hotels to fell one or more trees, and give a safer foothold to those adventurers who are desirous of seeing all the wonders of the place. In the autumn, when the forests are rich in purple, crimson, and

gold, or in the winter, when the ravine is filled with snow, and icicles hang from the cliffs, and the little stream bursts through its partial confinement, the scene is one of great grandeur. In the luxuriance of summer it is more fresh and glowing, the verdure of the woods relieving the nakedness of the rocks. In all seasons it is a place for study, for reflection, and delight.

The scene most forcibly suggests to one the following lines from Shelley's Cenci: —

"But I remember,
Two miles on this side of the fort, the road
Crosses a deep ravine; 'tis rough and narrow,
And winds with short turns down the precipice;
And in its depth there is a mighty rock,
Which has, from unimaginable years,
Sustained itself with terror and with toil
Over a gulf, and with the agony
With which it clings, seems slowly coming down;
Even as a wretched soul hour after hour
Clings to the mass of life; yet, clinging, leans,
And, leaning, makes more dark the dread abyss
In which it fears to fall: beneath this crag,
Huge as despair, as if in weariness,
The melancholy mountain yawns — below,
You hear but see not an impetuous torrent
Raging among the caverns, and a bridge
Crosses the chasm; and high above there grow,
With intersecting trunks, from crag to crag,
Cedars, and yews, and pines, whose tangled hair
Is matted in one solid roof of shade
By the dark ivy's twine. At noonday here
'Tis twilight, and at sunset blackest night."

Returning from the Flume, we find the path to the

POOL,

directly in front of the hotel, leading straight into the woods. A walk of three quarters of a mile, beneath the overhanging branches, brings us to this famous and wonderful formation. A deep excavation, as though hewn by human hands, in the granite, holds the waters, which enter by a cascade from the upper, and escape through an opening in the mass of rocks at the lower extremity. The width of the Pool is about a hundred and fifty feet; its depth about forty feet. From the brink of the wall above to the surface below, the distance is very nearly one hundred and fifty feet. It is a place of the most wondrous attraction. It may not have the charm of the Basin and the Cascades, but it is more secluded, and the sight of it is a sufficient return for the toils of the way, if toils they may be called. The rambling wood-path, and the stroll along its pleasant way, can never be toilsome to the true lover of Nature, even though so worthy an object of admiration as is the Pool were not at its termination. An old enthusiast, who appears to live in a boat of somewhat novel construction, upon the waters of this retired Pool, will, for a small gratuity, give any one who desires it a ride in his ark-like dwelling, and will propound a theory of creation not found in standard authorities. He has also constructed a path from the Pool to the Flume, which much shortens the distance between the two places, but which is somewhat difficult, though not wholly impracticable, to ladies.

Georgianna Falls.

About a mile south of the Flume House is a farm-house with gable ends, owned by Mr. Guernsey. A path here leads into the woods. Mr. Guernsey will act as guide; and his assistance is essential, as the path is quite obscure. The walk is through the forest, up a moderate ascent for about a mile and a half. The stream which flows over the falls is at some seasons quite large: but in a dry time, like all the mountain brooks, it carries but little water. The falls extend over 150 or 200 feet of perpendicular height, though broken into more than one leap. The best view is to be obtained from a point about one-third of the way down, where the water is sliding over a broad sheet of rock, fretted into glancing foam of such exquisite delicacy as to resemble a fine lace shawl. "Mirror Cave" gives a beautiful reflection of that portion of the falls near it. From the upper part of the ledge is a fine view of the Pemigewasset Valley. The excursion may be easily made from the Profile or Flume House in a forenoon or afternoon, and is perfectly practicable for ladies.

These falls were duly christened "Georgianna Falls" in 1858, by one of the first parties which visited them, and the name has become well established. They were also called "Harvard Falls," probably, about the same time. The State geologist, to solve the problem and retain both names, has decided to call the brook "Harvard Brook," and to allow the other name to remain unaltered.

Mount Pemigewasset

is the peak west of the Flume House. The path enters the woods just north of the hotel, and is distinctly marked. It will not be found difficult for ladies, and will not require more than half an hour of easy walking. The top is a broad ledge of bare rock, surrounded by the usual spruce growth. The view commands the whole Pemigewasset Valley from Cannon Mountain, whose broad cliffs limit the view on the north; thence to hills in Plymouth on the south, with Lafayette and the other mountains of his range in the east. The south top of the mountain is quite precipitous, even overhanging in some places. This can be reached by a little rough climbing down the shelving side to the west.

The Moosilauke Basins.

There are many pleasant drives down the valley of the river, and on the side-roads which lead off into the valleys. One of the most pleasing is that which turns to the west, about four miles south of the Flume House, and leads up the valley towards Moosilauke. On the stream which flows through the valley are some very interesting chasms in the rocks, worn by the action of the water, called the "Moosilauke Basins."

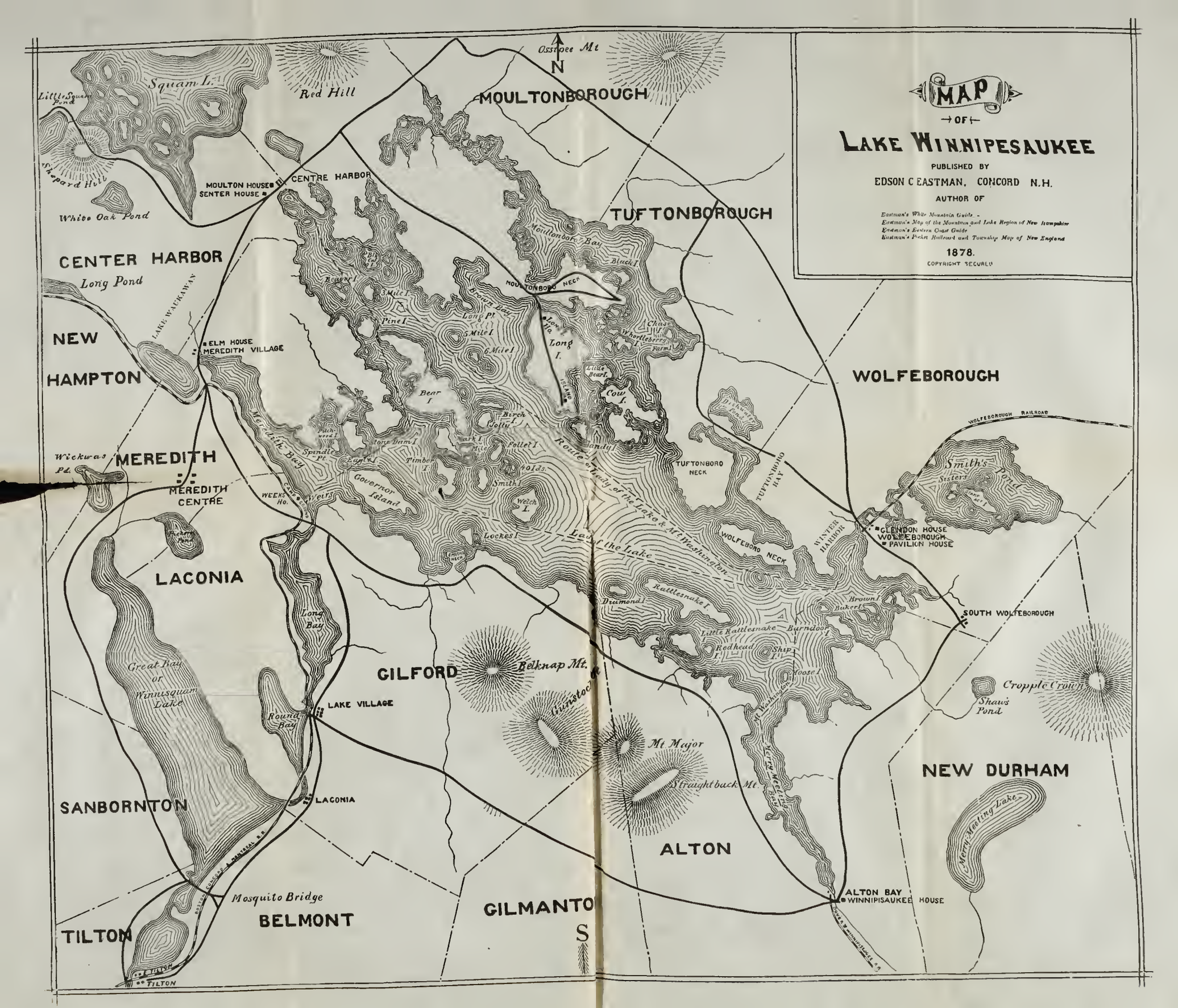
From the Flume House the tourist may retrace his steps, and leave the mountains via Littleton, or, better yet, take the stage-ride of twenty-five miles down the charming Valley of the Pemigewasset, connecting with the cars at Plymouth.

Lake Winnipesaukee.

Before proceeding to the account of routes, we will give a brief description of Lake Winnipesaukee, as it is usually visited on the way to or from the Mountains, and may be approached from different directions.

The lake lies in the two counties of Carroll and Belknap, and is very irregular in form. At the west end it is divided into three large bays; at the north is a fourth; and at the east end there are three others. Its general course is from north-west to south-east. From one extreme end to the other the distance is not far from twenty-five miles. The width varies from one to seven miles. The towns of Moultonborough, Wolfborough, Tuftonborough, Centre Harbor, Meredith, Gilford, and Alton lie upon its borders, while from the high land of more distant towns fine views can be obtained of its placid waters.

The waters of the lake descend four hundred and seventy-two feet in finding their way to the Atlantic. A rapid river of the same name with that of the lake, over which the railroad passes at Sanbornton Bridge, serves as its outlet to the Merrimack. The waters of Lake Winnipesaukee are remarkably clear, so that their finny inhabitants can be seen with great distinctness playing among the stones at the depth of many feet. The fish, of which there is a great variety, can frequently be caught at the steamboat wharves. The "oldest inhabitants," who know the haunts "where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S
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MEREDITH
LACONIA
GILFORD
ALTON
NEW DURHAM
SANBORNTON
BELMONT
GILMANTON
TILTON
Squam L.
Red Hill
Little Squam Pond
Shepard Hill
White Oak Pond
Long Pond
LAKE WAUKAWAN
MOULTON HOUSE
SENTER HOUSE
CENTRE HARBOR
ELM HOUSE
MEREDITH VILLAGE
Wickwas Pd.
MEREDITH CENTRE
WEEKS Ho.
Meredith Bay
Governor Island
Long Bay
Great Bay or Winnisquam Lake
Round Bay
LAKE VILLAGE
LACONIA
Mosquito Bridge
Belknap Mt.
Gunstock
Mt Major
Straightback Mt.
Merry Meeting Bay
Merry Meeting Lake
Cropple Crown
Shaw's Pond
Smith's Pond
Sisters
WOLFEBOROUGH RAILROAD
GLENDON HOUSE
WOLFEBOROUGH
PAVILION HOUSE
SOUTH WOLFEBOROUGH
WINTER HARBOR
TUFTONBORO BAY
TUFTONBORO NECK
WOLFEBORO NECK
Moultonboro Bay
MOULTONBORO NECK
Long I.
Cow I.
Bear I.
Birch I.
Follet I.
Smith I.
Welch I.
Lockes I.
Timber I.
Pine I.
Long Pt.
Brown Bay
Black I.
Chase I.
Whortleberry I.
Farm I.
Little Bear I.
Dishwater Pond
Route of Lady of the Lake & Mt Washington
Lady of the Lake
Rattlesnake I.
Diamond I.
Little Rattlesnake
Barndoor I.
Redhead I.
Ship I.
Moose I.
Brown I.
Baker I.
Mt Washington
Mosquito Bridge
ALTON BAY
WINNIPISAUKEE HOUSE
TILTON

ALTON

ALTON BAY

fish do congregate," can convoy you to rare sport. There are several places about the lake where, for about two weeks, large numbers of smelts can be caught. Then all disappear, and none are seen till the recurrence of the same season. Formerly, before so many dams obstructed their course, the shad came up here from the sea, to leave their spawn in the shallow bays. An effort is being made, by the erection of fish-ways at the dams, to restore their ancient privileges.

Lake Winnipesaukee is a mountain lake. Yet it lacks almost all those wild, rough features of mountain scenery which usually characterize inland waters in mountainous regions. The mountains rise on all sides, but the shore, seen from the distance, is comparatively smooth and level. The islands, far from being precipitous and rocky, are covered with verdure, and seem to float like fairy barks upon the broad lake-mirror. The lake is usually approached in the calm and stillness of the noon-day sun. The spirit of repose, incident upon the hour and upon the escape from the hot, dusty cars, harmonizes with the green foliage of the islands and the quiet surface of the water. By and by, soon after starting, a mild, balmy breeze just ruffles the surface of the lake, and, giving yourself up to its genial influences, you no longer wonder at the Indian admiration which gave it the name of "The beautiful water in a high place," or, "The Smile of the Great Spirit," as some maintain.

The route by way of this lake is the finest approach to the White Hills. Here is a vast antecham-

ber, the entrance hall, from which you look up through the valley of the Saco to the towering peaks of the Mountains. Yet neither this, nor the impression of lofty mountain scenery, constitutes the charm of the lake view. It consists rather in the feeling of quiet and repose, the freedom from the care and turmoil of busy life, engendered by the exquisite harmony of the outlines of the surrounding mountains, seen either from the lake or from the hotels on the shores, and the inviting aspect of the little islands which every where glisten like emeralds on its bosom. The ever-varying hues of the landscape, running through the whole scale from sunrise to sunset, transforming the lake into an opal, in the eyes of Mr. King, are sources of perpetual delight. While among the mountains one is constantly incited to activity and to rambles requiring exertion; the tendency here is to enjoy the beauty of the scene while at rest, depending for variety upon the effects of sunlight and cloud.

But not at all times does the lake thus calmly receive its visitors. Geo. Wm. Curtis thus describes a visit to the lake, and a passage through a thunder-storm: —

"Let it be a moist, even showery, summer day in late July or early August, with heavy, dark clouds rolling and breaking, fringing with silver rays and shrouding in soft, evanescent mists the tops and sides of distant hills, while towards the west and south there are cool, sweet, tranquil depths of blue air above, and a sparkling, opaline sheen upon the shore. As you leave the Weirs in that neat, and pretty, and comfortable little

steamer, the Lady of the Lake, the green headlands near by will be brilliant with sunshine, but Red Hill will be muffled with solemn cloud, peering gravely through at times, and Ossipee will be utterly obscured, while on Belknap, at your right, the ground will seem to heave and roll, — so suddenly shifting are the dark cloud-shadows and bursts of sun. As you emerge upon the broader lake, far to the south the happy regions lie, calm skies and rosy peace. But as you head northward towards Centre Harbor, alluring coves and bays open and stretch away on every side to dusky mist and storm. A thick black cloud envelops Red Hill, shuts out the friendly shore, leaves only the nearer quiet wooded points, while the lightning darts, the thunder booms angrily, sullenly haunting the winding bottoms of the hills, or cracks and rattles sharply overhead, and the freshening breeze, that foreruns rain, scuds darkling and sparkling over the water, nearer and nearer, until with colder blast and deeper roar the serried legions of the storm dash furious on, and we are instantly enveloped in rattling, blinding rain, and fierce, chill gusts that extinguish the shores.

" The tremendous rain streams by, and close before you lie the little white church and spire, and the cluster of neat houses that make the village of Centre Harbor, upon the very shore of the lake, and at the foot of hills that rise backward to heavy evergreen sides and summits ; while at the right, as you face the village, Red Hill emerges, dark, and cool, and crisp, with even foliage, from the cloud that clings along the heights,

but ravels into shreds of mist around the base and up the dells."

There are two steamers that ply upon the lake; two points at which it may be approached from the south, and two points of departure for the mountains. The steamers are the Lady of the Lake and Mt. Washington. Both are new. The former runs between the Weirs, Centre Harbor, and Wolfborough, and the latter between Alton Bay, Wolfborough, Centre Harbor, and Meredith Village. The Boston, Concord, and Montreal Railroad connects with the former at Weirs, and the Boston and Maine with the latter at Alton Bay. Coaches leave Centre Harbor for Ossipee daily, connecting at that point with the Great Falls and Conway Railroad for Conway. At Wolfborough, there is a rail connection with the same road by the Wolfborough branch.

Just north of the station at the Weirs is an extensive camp-meeting grove, under the direction of the Methodists. A small hotel has recently been erected here for the accommodation of transient guests and boarders. In the river, a short distance from the landing, is the Endicott rock, with the boundary marks made by the Massachusetts surveyors.

The steamer LADY OF THE LAKE, Captain W. A. Sanborn, sails almost immediately on the arrival of the train. We wind our way through the numberless islands that crowd our path. Red Hill

now appears in sight, and then is lost behind an intervening island. An opening strait gives you a view of Rattlesnake Island. The reptile after which the island is named is even now to be found here. None have been seen elsewhere about the lake for many years. Mt. Belknap or Gunstock is also to be seen on the right, and on the opposite quarter Ossipee rears its bare head. This mountain the tourist will find difficulty in escaping. The road towards the Notch winds around its base, and not till a good part of it has been passed over on the way towards North Conway will the peak be fairly left behind. About three miles from the Weirs we reach Bear Island, which is nearly four miles long. Upon one of these numerous islands there resided, in 1851, "solitary and alone," an aged spinster, familiarly known as "Aunt Dolly." In this wild and romantic spot, almost entirely cut off from the world, she lived in hermit independence, taking care of her corn, her few sheep, and occasionally rowing her own skiff to the main land. At length, after a sail of ten miles, we reach CENTRE HARBOR. It is of this trip that Edward Everett speaks as follows: "I have been something of a traveller in our own country, — though far less than I could wish, — and in Europe have seen all that is most attractive, from the Highlands of Scotland to the Golden Horn of Constantinople — from the summit of the Hartz Mountains to the Fountain of Vaucluse; but my eye has yet to rest on a lovelier scene than that which smiles around you as you sail from Weirs' landing to Centre Harbor."

Should the traveller have leisure to spend upon this beautiful lake, he cannot do better than continue his journey to WOLFBOROUGH. The distance from Centre Harbor is about twenty miles, and is usually accomplished in two hours. For the first mile or two the course pursued is the same as that over which he has just passed. But he soon leaves the old path, and passes through a broader portion of the lake than that just traversed. It is a most delightful trip in a clear morning or pleasant evening. At sunset, particularly, and when the evening shades begin to prevail, is had the finest view of the distant mountains, with their ever-changing aspects.

Alton Bay is the most southern point of the seven great bays of Winnipesaukee Lake. The village is small. There is a large camp-meeting ground on the shore of the lake near by. The Winnipiseogee House is near the station, and was enlarged in 1875. It is kept by Messrs. A. O. Phillips and Co.

Board may be had here at the rate of $10.00 per week and upwards. There is an excellent livery-stable connected with the hotel, and there are many pleasant drives in the vicinity. Among these may be mentioned Sharp's Hill, from which an admirable view of the lake can be had. Lougee Pond, about six miles distant, is noted for tame fish. The pleasantest excursion, however, is to the summit of Mt. Belknap, about ten miles distant. The fare for a party in a mountain-wagon is $1.50 each. The excursion will occupy all of one day, and the delight

will amply repay one for the time spent. If for no other purpose than this, one should arrange to spend a day at Bay View House, Alton Bay.

The steamer Mt. Washington, is a new iron steamer built expressly for the Lake. It makes regular trips, connecting with the railroads at Alton Bay and Wolfborough, and with the stages at Centre Harbor. The tourist will find Capt. A. WIGGIN, formerly captain of the steamer CHOCORUA, a gentlemanly and agreeable commander. Capt. Wiggin is thoroughly acquainted with the lake, having been long connected with the lake steamers.

The distance from Alton Bay to Wolfborough is about ten miles, and to Centre Harbor about thirty miles, thus sailing nearly the entire length of the lake. In fact no one who visits the lake should fail to take a trip to Alton Bay, if he come by the other route; nor should he fail to take the trip to the Weirs, if his first impressions are received by the Alton Bay route, as there are beauties of scenery, which should not be lost, peculiar to each.

Alton Bay, originally christened "Merrymeeting Bay," seems entirely shut in by the hills which rise on each side, and by what, as you advance, proves to be an island in the distance. It is hardly necessary to do more than allude to the picturesque and varied scenery of this pleasant sail. The boat winds its way among the numerous islands, giving the traveller occasional glimpses of the distant ranges of mountains in the

north, as well as abundant opportunity to study the contour of the peaks upon the immediate borders of the lake.

If it falls to the lot of the traveller to be near the lake on some bright moonlight evening, he should not fail to inquire if a moonlight excursion is to take place. These excursions are frequently made by parties from neighboring towns, who charter the boat for that purpose.

Wolfborough.

The village of Wolfborough is delightfully situated on two beautiful slopes of land rising from a bay of the lake. The Glendon House is near the wharf and railroad-station, and will accommodate about 100 guests. The proprietor is J. L. Peavy. Price per day, $3.00. The Bellevue is a smaller hotel near by, under the charge of Daniel Horn. Price per day, $2.50. There are also numerous boarding-houses in the village, which are well filled during the season. The Pavilion, which is one of the largest and most comfortable houses in the region, is admirably situated on the rising ground. Both rooms and veranda command a lovely view across the beautiful bay, out upon the open lake, and across that to Belknap, whose noble form is grandly outlined against the southern sky. Isaac N. Andrews, recently of Kearsarge House at Conway, and formerly connected with the Profile House, is the present proprietor. Price per day $3.00, with a reduction by the week.

Visitors will be sure of receiving every attention

they can desire, and will find the tables supplied with all the delicacies of the season, and the rooms neat and airy. The hotel is a modern erection, and has just been enlarged by the addition of some thirty rooms. It has long been known to the travelling community, and has been a favorite resort for those who wish to spend a few weeks upon the shores of the lake. Horses and carriages can be obtained at the livery stables. Boats for fishing parties or sailing excursions are also to be had.

Copple Crown Mountain,

about 2100 feet high, is five miles from Wolfborough, and may be easily ascended. Carriages from the hotel convey you within about a mile of the summit, from which point horses can be obtained for the ascent if desired. The carriage fare is $1.00, and the charge for the horse for the ascent fifty cents. The view from the summit is thought by many to equal that from Red Hill, and is certainly very delightful. The lake, which forms a part of all views in this vicinity, is visible for nearly its whole length. Belknap and Gunstock, with the mountains of the Merrimack valley, stretch away towards the west. To the south is a fine view of the more level part of the State, forest and meadow, with ponds and villages distinctly visible. The Ossipee and Sandwich ranges tower above the lake to the north-west. Almost due north, Chocorua, with Mount Washington proudly preëminent above it, indicates the region of the White Mountains. In a clear day the ocean can be seen.

On the north-east is a smaller mountain, called "Tumble-down-Dick." This is more easily ascended than Copple Crown, and the view is quite similar.

The Wolfborough Railroad is a branch of the Great Falls and Conway, about twelve miles long. By it a close rail connection is had with Conway, and cars also run direct to Boston, via Portsmouth. By the express trains a little over four hours is required to reach Wolfborough from Boston, leaving that city over the Eastern Railroad. Between Conway and Wolfborough the time is now about an hour. The distance from Boston is 110 miles. During the season of mountain travel, Pullman cars will be run on the express train. Between Boston and Portsmouth the road runs by the seashore. The opening of this branch road and the extension of the main line to North Conway have made Wolfborough the most important point on the lake.

Ossipee, on the Great Falls and Conway Railroad, is nine miles from Wolfborough, and twenty-six miles from North Conway. This year (1876) a stage-line is to run between Wolfborough and Ossipee; making the distance in about the same time as by rail, via the junction, owing to the shorter distance.

Centre Harbor

is on the northern shore, near Squam Lake. The location is a beautiful one, and it has always been deservedly popular. The Senter House, by J. L. Huntress, faces the lake. The view, from the piazza, of the quiet bay, sheltered by the hills, and guarded at its en-

trance by a little island, of the lake beyond, gleaming in the sunlight, and of the mountains which surround the lake, is exquisitely lovely. It has been often painted and engraved. The hotel, one of the best in the mountain region, is commodious and well furnished, and has been long and favorably known for the convenience of its arrangements, the perfection of its table, and the courtesy of the proprietor. An extensive livery stable is connected with the hotel. MOULTON'S HOTEL, a smaller house near by, is well kept.

The chief object of interest in the immediate vicinity of Centre Harbor is

Red Hill.

From this hill, about four miles distant, in Moultonborough, the best view of the lake and circumjacent scenery can be obtained. Its height, two thousand five hundred feet, places before the eye of the observer an extensive, varied, and picturesque tract of country, perhaps nowhere excelled in New England. It is by no means difficult to climb. There is a wagon-path to the base, and thence well-trained horses convey you to the summit. The top is destitute of trees and bushes, and affords an uninterrupted prospect far and wide. In clear days the peaks of the White Mountains are dimly discernible in the far north; the Ossipee Mountains appear in the east; a little to the north, Chocorua, recalling its Indian tradition, rears its craggy summit; and still farther away the mountains of Maine close in the view. Kearsarge and Monadnock are plainly visible at the south-west, with Belknap at the south-east. Squam Lake, six miles long, with its beautiful green islands, fringed with beaches of white sand, is glittering in the sunshine on the west.

But to the south and east lies Winnipesaukee, the gem of all New England lakes. The ascent of Red Hill is usually made in the forenoon; but, to enjoy the exquisite loveliness of Winnipesaukee, it should be made in the afternoon or in the early morning. In the middle of the day the blinding glare of the sun upon the water almost robs it of the quiet beauty of its softness and harmony. But in the afternoon the sun

illumines with a genial glow the calm expanse of the distant surface of the lake; the rippling waves just reflect its image; the hundred islands assume their peculiar form of grace and loveliness; the mountains on the opposite shore, from a glow of crimson, change to a brown purple, as the lingering rays of the setting sun leave them one by one; while the advancing shadows of those nearer to you change to a new form the fairy outline of the lake. Beyond extends

> "A slumb'rous stretch of mountain-land, far seen,
> When the low westering day, with gold and green,
> Purple and amber, softly blended, fills
> The wooded vales, and melts among the hills."

If, too, you are early riser enough to see, from its summit, the sun roll up majestically from behind the opposite hills, you will acknowledge that Lake Winnipesaukee possesses a charm and beauty peculiar to itself.

Coaches leave Centre Harbor for West Ossipee soon after the arrival of the morning boats, connecting at that point, with trains over the Great Falls and Conway Railroad, for Conway and North Conway. The distance to West Ossipee is eighteen miles; from West Ossipee to North Conway, sixteen miles. The road passes by Red Hill, through Moultonborough and Tamworth, and almost round Ossipee Mountain. Sandwich Mountain, Whiteface, and Chocorua are among the conspicuous peaks on the left. No one who selects this route is likely to regret his choice, as the views are among the finest to be obtained in the mountain.

The Bear-camp River House is a small hotel, accommodating about fifty guests at West Ossipee.

The ascent of Chocorua can be conveniently made from this place. The best view of this mountain ("The Old Bear") may also be had here. The mountain is one of the most notable of the lower peaks of the White Mountain range. It is 3,358 feet high, and without vegetation, other than such as a few blueberries or cranberries create. It is, in fact, a granite mountain, with pinnacles and precipices, sharp, angular peaks and unexpected descents, — a countless myriad of great bowlders, hurled together by more than Titanic force. One of the peaks of Chocorua is the scene of the tragic incident from which the peak derives its name, so beautifully narrated by Mrs. Seba Smith.

CONWAY,

though the gate to the mountain region, is one of the most level towns in the State. The hotels are the Grove House, by Edwin Pease; the Pequawket House, by Daniel E. Pendexter, — each accommodating about fifty guests, at $2.00 per day; and the Conway House, by L. H. Eastman, 100 guests, $3.00 per day. The latter is a modern house, thoroughly furnished. It is near the junction of the Swift and Saco Rivers, commanding fine views of the mountains, and within easy reach of all the places of interest visited from North Conway. It is also at a convenient distance from Chocorua, so that the mountain may be ascended from this point.

Five miles beyond Conway, in the valley of the Saco, and surrounded on all sides by mountains, lies

NORTH CONWAY,

the favorite resort of our New England artists. Many families visit this place in the summer season to avoid the noise, bustle, and expense of large hotels. The Saco River here is from ten to twelve rods wide, and usually about two feet deep. It has been known to rise thirty feet in twenty-four hours. The KIARSARGE HOUSE, kept by S. W. & S. D. THOMPSON, is a new and large hotel, such as has long been needed at this place. It is newly furnished, lighted with gas, and has accommodation for 300 guests. The price is $4.00 per day, with a liberal deduction by the week. The other hotels are the McMILLAN HOUSE, by JOHN McMILLAN, the WASHINGTON HOUSE, by J. M. GIBSON, the NORTH CONWAY HOUSE, by N. R. MASON, the SUNSET PAVILION, by M. L. MASON, the INTERVALE HOUSE, by STEPHEN MUDGETT & SONS, MASON HOTEL, by F. H. MASON, ARTIST FALLS HOUSE, by AUGUSTUS EASTMAN, EASTMAN HOUSE, by C. H. BOSWELL, and the RANDALL HOUSE, by JAMES T. RANDALL. The price at these houses is from $1.50 to $2.50 per day. There are also many boarding-houses in the town.

The village of North Conway is situated on the upland overlooking the intervals of the Saco. On the east is the range of hills, the larger of which is called Middle Mountain, with Kearsarge or Pequawket rising in lonely dignity a little to the north. On the west bank of the river can be seen the group

called Moat Mountain, with the peaks of Chocorua in the distance. But the chief and surpassing glory of the place is the view up the Saco Valley, with Mt. Washington in the distance. A finer view can nowhere be obtained of Mt. Washington and the attendant peaks. Although the appearance of the mountains is ever varying, — now by the position of the sun, now by the fogs and mists, and now by the clouds which sometimes entirely obscure the summits, — still the best time to gaze upon them is when they are illuminated by the slanting rays of the sun at the close of a pleasant day. The shadows can be seen stealing up the mountain sides one by one, hastening with greater rapidity as they near their goal; the summits farthest east of Washington then lose their golden raiment, and adopt a more sombre hue; then the peaks to the west; and finally Mt. Washington, as it was the first to greet, so it is the last to say farewell to the lingering rays of light. During the day the preëminence of Washington was distinctly visible, but now relieved against the sky it appears still more plainly. With the aid of a little imagination, a lay figure may be seen from their outlines, — Adams and Jefferson forming the head, Washington the breast, and Webster and the other mountains the remainder of the body.

There are several walks and drives in the vicinity of North Conway. The first of these excursions, to which we would call attention, is that to

Artist's Falls.

To reach this charming, though quiet and retired spot, you must retrace your steps for a short distance towards Conway. Just after crossing the bridge at the foot of a small hill, you turn abruptly to the left, leaving the road, and, after a walk of half a mile, you will reach the place. A little stream of water, which once turned a mill-wheel, glides down a short descent. There is nothing wonderful or striking in the volume of water or the greatness of the descent; yet the beauty of the whole scene, the picturesque grouping of the rocks, and the grateful shade of the forest trees, have caused it to be frequently portrayed upon the canvas. Those who see it often are most impressed by its charms.

Echo Lake, Cathedral, and the Ledges.

These can perhaps be most conveniently visited in a single afternoon's ride. They are all situated on the opposite side of the river, about three miles distant. Echo Lake, a beautiful sheet of water lying at the very base of Mote Mountain, is well worth visiting, even were it wanting in the wonderful echo from which it derives its names. The stillness of the sunset hour seems most inspiring to the genius of the place.

The "White Horse," which is visible from the village, is a figure of a horse pictured upon the perpendicular sides of the cliffs. These cliffs extend along the mountain side for a distance of four or five miles.

They vary in height from one to eight hundred feet. A ride directly along their base will give one a far better idea of their size than that gained from a distant view. The road is quite pleasant, winding along the bank of the Saco, and has many extended views. It is in one of these cliffs that "the Cathedral" is situated. This is a natural cavity formed in the solid granite. The wall, rising some eighty feet, gradually inclines outward, forming a magnificent arch, roofed with solid rock. Trees, which have been for many years attaining their present size, form the other wall of this natural temple. The floor, which is some twenty feet in width, is strewn with large blocks of granite, which have evidently fallen from the roof above. Though the ascent to the Cathedral is somewhat arduous, it is worth while to make the attempt.

Diana's Bath

is situated on the same side of the Saco, a little farther to the north than the Cathedral. It is one of the most beautiful places about Conway. It is necessary for one to see, in order to realize its exquisite beauty, as no description, however minute or elaborate, can convey an adequate idea of its peculiar charms. The approach is along a pleasant woodland path, from which you descend upon a slightly inclined table of granite, over which the water gently flows here and there in rivulets, broken into miniature falls by the jutting rocks. As you ascend the stream a little way you discover a beautiful fall, of some ten feet in height.

The overhanging trees throw a pleasant shade around, inviting one to agreeable repose. Above this, and indeed in many places below, are great numbers of holes or basins in rock, smoothly polished by the action of the water. It is from these, or perhaps from the largest, which is not less than ten feet in diameter, and more than ten feet deep, that the place derives its name. As you look into the limpid water with which they are filled, sparkling like crystal in the sun, or calm and quiet under the shadow of some overhanging tree, so that you may almost see the water sprites floating in the depths, you will readily acknowledge it to be such a bath as the goddess would have chosen for herself. An hour or two may be very agreeably spent in exploring the hidden beauties which are disclosed only to the observing eye.

Mt. Pequawket, or Kiarsarge,

which is about three miles distant from the village, is 3,251 feet above sea-level. Several years ago a hotel was erected upon its summit, which has been recently repaired. The view from the observatory is superior to that obtained below, as it is unobstructed by the foreground.

A carriage-road is in process of construction, which, when completed, will render the ascent very easy. The bridle-path is kept in good condition, and horses and a guide can be secured at the house near the base. $2 are charged for each horse, and $2 more for the services of the guide. The ascent, however, is by no means

difficult for pedestrians, and can safely be made without the guide. The time required for the ascent is not far from two hours. The path can be ascended with horses to the very summit.

As this is the highest peak south of the mountains in this direction, the view from its summit is especially fine. The whole White Mountain range is visible, with Mt. Washington most prominent. Nothing intervenes to cut off the view of the whole of the latter peak. The minor hills, which somewhat obstruct the view below, are entirely lost sight of by the great elevation. Then towards the south-east is seen the broad expanse of comparatively level land towards Portland. Sebago Lake, Lovewell's Pond, and many other smaller bodies of water, agreeably diversify the face of the country. Winnipesaukee Lake is hidden by the mountains upon its shores. The sharp peaks of Chocorua, with the Moat and Middle Mountains in the foreground, can also be seen with great distinctness. The course of the Saco can be traced almost from its source, as it winds its way among the intervals, and finally bends away into Maine. A good glass will be of material aid. This mountain should by no means be neglected by those who are desirous to obtain the best views of the mountain ranges. It is undoubtedly the best point, on this side of the White Mountains, to obtain a good view of Mt. Washington.

The Hotel on the summit is kept by A. A. and J. W. WHITAKER, and the price of board is $4.00 per day.

Trains from Portland reach North Conway at 10

A. M. and 3.45 P. M., and leave for Portland at 6.05 A. M. and 12.10 P. M. The time between the two places is about two and a half hours. Trains leave Boston over the Eastern, Portsmouth, Great Falls, and Conway Railroads, and arrive at 1 and 7.30 P. M. The time by express-trains will be about five hours.

Passengers for the Notch or the Glen House leave North Conway by the cars of the Portland and Ogdensburgh Railroad; those for the Glen House connecting with the stages at the Glen Station. There has also been a line of stages running all the way between the Glen and North Conway; but it may not be kept up. The distance is twenty-one miles, and the fare $3.

For further description, see p. 71.

BOSTON TO GORHAM, N. H., VIA PORTLAND.

Express trains are now run over both the Boston and Maine, and Eastern Railroad, leaving Boston at 8.30 in the morning, and reaching Portland in season for dinner. At 1 o'clock the cars leave the station of the Grand Trunk Railway for Gorham, N. H. There are also other trains during the day, besides a night express over the Eastern.

There is, also, communication by steamboat between Boston and Portland. Leaving Boston about seven in the evening, Portland is reached at five in the morning. Then by the first train on the Grand Trunk Railway, the traveller arrives at Gorham at 11 A. M., and at the Glen House, if he desires, by stage in season for dinner. The fare from Boston to Gorham, by a through ticket on the cars, is $5.50; by steamboat and cars, $4.50. The distance from Boston to Portland by the shorter of the two railroad routes, is 107 miles; from Portland to Gorham, N. H., 91 miles.

On the route from Portland to Gorham there is nothing especially attractive in the scenery — nothing

that promises or hints the grandeur in reserve, until the train reaches

Bryant's Pond. This lake in miniature, the source of the Little Androscoggin River, charmingly set among hills several hundred feet in height, is twenty-nine miles from Gorham. The pond and the track of the railroad lie about seven hundred feet above the sea level.

Bethel

which is the next point of interest, is the chief town of Oxford county, Maine, and probably the loveliest village of that State. It is twenty-one miles from Gorham. Travellers are as yet but little acquainted with its attractions. Bethel is, in truth, the North Conway of the eastern side of the Hills. If the terminus of the railroad were here, or if passengers were compelled to leave the cars at this point, and take stages to Gorham and the Glen, Bethel would be a dangerous rival to North Conway, and the ride from Bethel to Mount Washington would be pronounced superior, on some accounts, in charm, to the famous ride from Conway through Bartlett to the Notch.

The meadows of Bethel are very lovely; and on a clear afternoon, when the golden light falls aslant upon the fresh grass, throwing out long shadows from the trees, and the eye follows northward the narrowing line of hills along the course of the Androscoggin, and

catches the sharp edges of the great White Mountain range sweeping across and closing up the vista, it is difficult to conceive where an artist can find a more tempting picture in New England. There are several hills, too, in and near the village, easily accessible, around which the most fascinating panoramas of forests, hills, rivers, lakes, meadows, and mountain majesty are displayed. Bethel will, we predict, at some time not very far distant, be sought as a boarding-place during the summer by those who love charming scenery with more quiet than the prominent White Mountain routes and hotels afford.

The CHANDLER HOUSE, by F. S. CHANDLER, is the principal hotel in the place. It will accommodate from 75 to 100 guests. Travellers can procure teams from him to visit places of interest in the neighborhood. Like Conway, Bethel is a favorite place of resort for persons seeking a quiet boarding place among the mountains. There is a delightful drive of twelve miles to the grand water sculpture of the Albany Basins, which are worn out of the solid granite. Eighteen miles in the opposite direction one finds the Rumford Falls. The road to these falls is excellent, the scenery on the way very lovely, and the falls themselves hardly inferior to any in New England. The full tide of the Androscoggin makes a descent here of one hundred and sixty feet in three pitches, and within the space of a quarter of a mile. There is one sheer descent of seventy feet. The drive may be one way on one side and the return on the opposite side of the Androscoggin, through

beautiful meadows, with fine views of Kiarsarge, Chocorua, and the White Mountain Range. The Greenwood caves are also to be visited on this route.

Lake Umbagog

is best visited from this point. It is 26 miles from Bethel, with a regular stage connection. On leaving Bethel, the Androscoggin is followed for six miles to Newry Corner. Thence the route lies up the Bear River, a small mountain stream to the well-known Poplar Tavern, kept by Charles Bartlett, which is twelve miles from Bethel. Three miles from this place, at Fanning's Mills are the "Screw Auger Falls," which are well worth visiting. Starting early in the morning from Bethel, this portion of route can be visited and Bethel reached the same night. If possible, however, the journey should be continued through the Bear River Notch, also called, we believe, Grafton Notch, which is the most impressive mountain pass in this section of the State. The Lake House, kept by H. R. Goodwin, is on the shore of Umbagog Lake.

Dixville Notch, which is nineteen miles from this place, is accessible from this point. The route is by steamer across the Lake to Errol Dam, and thence by private conveyance ten miles further. We shall speak of Dixville Notch, more at length hereafter.

Angler's Retreat

is sixteen miles above the Lake House. It is a great

place of resort for fishermen from all parts of the country. It is kept by the proprietor of the Lake House, and has accommodations for about thirty guests. The spotted brook-trout are the only trout found in the chain of lakes of which Umbagog is the lower. They range from one to eight pounds in weight, and the fishing in this vicinity is probably unsurpassed in New England.

From Bethel to the station in Gorham the scenery through which the cars pass is very fascinating. Three villages, charmingly located to increase the beauty of the landscape, lie in full view from the train, — West Bethel, Gilead, and Shelburne. About a mile from the station in Gilead the boundary line of Maine is passed, and the traveller is among the New Hampshire hills. Especially fortunate are those who see this scenery for the first time in the rich light of a clear summer afternoon. The sight of the brilliant meadows, spotted with elms, — of the graceful curves of the Androscoggin, studded with islands; of the brawny hills that guard it, among which the train flies along a twisted track; and, now and then, of the long, firmly-cut lines of the White Mountain ridge shooting across the north, until in Shelburne, Madison, and the peak of Jefferson, and the bulk of Washington, spring out for a few minutes in full view, — almost banishes the fatigue of a hot day's ride, and prepares the visitor for the pleasures in store after his arrival in Gorham, at the Alpine House.

The route through the mountain region from this point is described on the 14th and following pages.

But we must here speak of two excursions to other points of interest connected directly with the White Mountains on their eastern side.

Willoughby Lake

must not be overlooked. This is a small sheet of water, six miles in length, and from one to two in width, charmingly set between steep granite mountains in the northern part of Vermont. There is a fine hotel on the border of the lake, kept by Alonzo Bemis. Passengers can leave Gorham about noon by cars, stop at the Island Pond House for dinner, and take the stage thence for Willoughby Lake, which will be reached by tea-time. More will be said of this lake in another connection.

Memphremagog Lake

may also be reached from Island Pond by stage. The distance to Newport, at the head of the lake, is about the same as to Willoughby. The traveller may also continue his journey to Sherbrooke, whence a stage-ride of sixteen miles will convey him to Outlet Village, on the northern shore of the lake. The lake will be described more at length hereafter. The fare to Newport or Willoughby Lake from Island Pond is one dollar.

Island Pond is the "half-way" station between Portland and Montreal. It is a charming spot. The pond is directly in front of the station-house.

Dixville Notch.

The Dixville hills lie in the extreme northern portion of New Hampshire, some sixty miles beyond the Washington range. It is very seldom that a tourist strays so far from the regular routes; but the geologists have long been acquainted with the interesting scenery of the region, and have called attention to it in reports of their surveys. Dr. Jackson, in his great work on the Geology of New Hampshire, speaks of the Dixville Notch as more Alpine in its character than any other pass of our New England mountains, and predicts that its grandeur will yet make it a place of large resort.

Since the completion of the Grand Trunk Railway, it has become easily accessible, and should be more widely known. One can leave Boston at seven o'clock in the morning, and sleep the same night within ten miles of the Notch, reaching it early in the forenoon of the second day; or take the eleven o'clock train from the Alpine House in Gorham, and in an hour and a half be landed at North Stratford, which lies on the Connecticut River, thirty-six miles from Gorham. The

railroad ride is very pleasant. The track lies along the narrow and winding valley of the Androscoggin, hemmed in by grand and gloomy hills, until it bends toward the more cheerful Connecticut. Then it winds up around the base of the singular, bleached, twin cones called the Stratford Peaks.

At North Stratford a wagon-stage is in readiness, on the arrival of the noon and evening trains, to convey passengers to Colebrook. If there is no stage, an extra wagon can be hired at slight expense. The ride to Colebrook, up the Connecticut, is charming. Frequently a view of a broad interval, with the glittering river sweeping through it in a lordly curve, will make a man regret that the slow pace of the horses could not be retarded, in order that he might more leisurely feast his eyes.

Colebrook may also be reached over the Boston, Concord, and Montreal Railroad. The train reaches Groveton Junction, the terminus of that road, at about 7 o'clock, in season to connect with the noon train from Portland, and arriving at Stratford at the same time as by the other route, and making the same connections by stage to Colebrook, thirteen miles distant, passing through the beautiful Valley of the Upper Connecticut.

Colebrook is quite a flourishing village on the New Hampshire side of the river, and laying in the eastern shadow of a massive and majestic mountain which the inhabitants call Monadnoc. This hill lies just beyond the river in Vermont, and is really quite imposing by

its bulk and glorious verdure. It must spring more than two thousand feet from the stream at its base. There are two hotels in Colebrook, the Parsons House, by E. F. Bailey, and the Monadnoc House, by T. G. Rowen. Dixville Notch is ten miles distant. There is here a new hotel, called the Notch House, which is situated in the heart of this wild region. If you reach Colebrook at the right hour for the drive, you cannot do better than to continue your journey to this hotel. If it is already late in the day, the drive will be pleasanter in the early morning. Travellers will be much struck with the general excellence of the land along the way. It is the best farming region of the Granite State; and the fields are so free from stones that it is quite impossible to have stone walls for boundaries. The last two miles of the ride wind through the grandest forest one will find in his mountain travels. Every variety of tree is represented along the way, and generally of much larger growths than are met before. A person will begin to doubt whether there is any mountain magnificence near, so closely is the road shut in by the forest. Suddenly the heavy walls of the Dixville range begin to show themselves ahead. And while one is admiring their dark and grave sides of shadowed foliage, wondering where the pass he is in search of can open, a turn of the road to the right brings the wagon in front of the bare and savage jaws of the Notch, at its western entrance.

The first view of it is very impressive. It opens like a Titanic gateway to some region of vast and mysterious desolation. The pass is much narrower than either of the more famous ones in the White Mountains, and, through its whole extent of a mile and a quarter, has more the character of a Notch. One cannot but feel that the mountain was rent apart by some volcanic convulsion, and the two sides left to tell the story by their correspondence and the naked dreariness of the pillars of rotting rock that face each other. So narrow is the ravine (it can hardly be called a pass) that a rough and precarious roadway for a single carriage could only be constructed by building up against the mountain's side a substructure of rude masonry, while the walls slope upward so sharply on either

hand that a considerable outlay is demanded of the State every year to clear it of the stones and earth which the frosts and rain roll into it every winter and spring.

No description can impart an adequate conception of the mournful grandeur of the decaying cliffs of mica slate which overhang the way. They shoot up in most singular and fantastic shapes, and vary in height from four hundred to eight hundred feet. A few centuries ago the pass must have been very wild, but the pinnacles of rock, which give the scenery such an Alpine character, are rapidly crumbling away. Some have decayed to half their original height; and the side walls of the Notch are strewn with *debris*, which the ice and storms have pried and gnawed from the decrepit cliffs. The whole aspect is one of ruin and wreck. The creative forces seem to have retreated from the spot, and abandoned it to the sport of the destructive elements. One might entertain the thought that some awful crime had been committed there, for which the region was blasted by a lasting curse. The only life in the Notch belongs to the raspberry vines. It seems to be the paradise of this delicious fruit.

One should climb the highest pinnacle, called Table Rock, which juts out from the southerly wall of the pass, and stands about eight hundred feet above the road. It is no easy task to keep the footing in the steep ascent over the loose and treacherous ruins of slate that strew the way. Hands and feet are necessary. Table Rock is a narrow, projecting ledge, only

some six or eight feet wide at the summit, and about a hundred and fifty feet long, rising in an almost unbroken precipice on each side for several hundred feet. The descent is even more arduous than the ascent. It will be found, however, that the view from the summit repays the toil of the scramble. It is no small trial for weak nerves to walk out upon the side of the Notch upon this cliff, not more than six feet wide and eight hundred feet sheer down. No part of the ride up Mt. Washington makes the head swim so giddily. From it one can easily see into Maine, Vermont, and Canada. Only a few miles east lies Lake Umbagog, where the moose congregate in the evening to stand up to their neck in water and "fight flies," as the guides express it. About ten miles north is Lake Connecticut, a beautiful sheet of water, mother of the noble river which is the pride of New England. A tourist might spend a few days very profitably in exploring the novelties of the districts that lie around the Notch. On the face of this cliff, seen from below, some locate the usual Profile, without which a mountain pass is regarded as incomplete.

After about an hour's stay upon the pinnacle, one should descend and ride through the pass to a flume just before the eastern gateway is reached. Nearly opposite the entrance to the flume will be found a remarkably cold spring. On the opposite side of the road, in the woods, just beyond the Notch, there is a series of beautiful cascades, extending nearly a mile, surpassed in beauty and volume by none in the whole

White Mountain region. There is no path to these, and it will be found a difficult task to reach them.

The grand distinctive features of Dixville Notch are desolation and decay. How charming, then, the surprise, in passing through the Notch eastward, to ride out from its spiky teeth of slate into a most lovely plain, called "The Clear Stream Meadows," embosomed in mountains, luxuriantly wooded to the crown. It is something like descending from the desolation of the Alps into the foliage and beauty of Italy. The only house near was accidentally burned a few years since. The graves of the earliest settler and his wife are there, fenced off rudely, and overgrown with the tall weeds which nature wears for them. How many of the great and wealthy of our land will find such a cemetery? A mountain range for a monument; a luxuriant valley for a grave; such silence to sleep in as no Mt. Auburn can assure, and their story told to visitants from far-off portions of the land!

Returning through the whole length of the Notch, Colebrook is reached again by supper-time. The next morning, one can take the stage-wagon to North Stratford, and thence reach Gorham by cars early in the forenoon. Thus the whole journey from the Alpine House, or Glen House, to Dixville Notch, and back again, can be made in two days, and nearly the whole of one day will be passed in the Notch. It is also one of the cheapest excursions which the mountain region affords.

Tourists, who prefer a longer excursion, can provide themselves at the Alpine House with a light wagon, stout horses, and careful driver, and make the circuit through Dixville Notch at their leisure. Instead of returning by the same route, they would in that case pass on from the Notch to Erol Dam, at the head waters of the Androscoggin; spend a few days on Umbagog and its sister lakes, of which Theodore Winthrop writes so pleasantly, and return to the White Mountains through Grafton Notch in Maine, and the beautiful meadows of Bethel. To the sportsman, no trip can be more attractive, for nowhere are the trout finer or more plentiful. The scenery, too, is very fine. Grafton Notch, of which we had never heard until we were at its portals, and saw the gleaming pennant of a mountain-king flung out athwart the emerald freshness of its southern slope, is destined yet to be immortal. In the loveliness of its scenery, and its manifold objects of interest, it may contest the palm with Franconia. There is a wonderful chasm here, whose walls are as high and as perpendicular as those of the Flume. It is only accessible from above. At the bottom flows a large and noisy stream, which, as if the gloom of the lofty walls which hem it in, and the sombre stillness of the surrounding forest did not sufficiently guard its privacy, plunges beneath a huge mass of superincumbent rock — a rock which would be a landmark in Massachusetts or Rhode Island — and disappears from sight. Local tradition gives to this striking spot the name of Moose Chasm. It was dis-

covered by a hunter, whose game suddenly disappeared from his sight, and left him gazing down into the dark abyss, which the deer had in vain sought to leap.

The roads which are traversed on this route are hilly, but, with the exception of that through Dixville Notch, in good condition. Hotels are scarce, but an abundance of good, homely fare can be obtained at the scattered farm-houses, and a comfortable night's rest could be had before the war for a shilling. The traveller in this region would do well to keep a day's rations by him in case of emergency; but it is generally safe to rely on the country through which you pass.

Portland to the White Mountain Notch over the Portland and Ogdensburgh Railroad.

The distance from Portland to the Fabyan House, where connection is made with the Boston, Concord, and Montreal Railroad, is ninety-one miles. Of the upper portion of the road from Glen Station (66 miles from Portland) we have already spoken, as a part of the route through the mountains. The trains connect at Portland with the trains over the Boston and Maine and Eastern Railroads. This road, when completed, will connect Portland with the line of road leading to the west, north of Lake Champlain, and furnish a more direct route than the Grand Trunk.

The road passes along the shores of the famed Sebago Lake, which supplies the city of Portland with water,

The first station of interest is at the Lake Station, seventeen miles from Portland. This lake is fourteen miles long, and eleven broad. Two steamboats ply upon its waters and those of the Sango River and Long Lake. The trip over the lake, up the Sango River and Long Lake and return, may be made in one day if desired. On Raymond Cape, about five miles from the landing, are the "Images," a curious mass of rocks, that rise perpendicularly some seventy feet, and then slope about thirty feet more in fanciful shapes. The water at the base is eighty-five feet deep. In these rocks is a cave some twenty-five feet deep, frequented by Nathaniel Hawthorne in his youth.

After an hour's sail on the lake, the Sango River is reached. This is but two miles and a half in air-line from source to outlet; but the boat sails six miles to reach its end. The passage of this sinuous stream affords many pleasant pictures. Near the head of the stream is a lock, through which the steamer passes; and, after a mile more, Long Lake is reached. A sail of nine miles carries one to Bridgton wharf, the end of navigation.

If a stay is contemplated, there are two hotels, the Cumberland House and the Bridgton House. From here an excursion may be made to Mt. Pleasant, distant about six miles. This mountain is 2,018 feet high, and there is a carriage-road two miles to the summit. The fare from Portland to Bridgton and return is $2.50; to Mt. Pleasaant and return, $5. Leaving the Lake Station, the road passes through many pleasant villages; following the Saco,

after leaving the lake. About nine miles from North Conway is

FRYEBURG, the seat of a flourishing Academy. The OXFORD HOUSE in this place is kept by Mr. JOHN SMITH, for many years stage owner and driver between Conway, N. H., and Portland, Me. There are many places of interest in this town. Stark's Hill, about five hundred feet high; Jockey Cap, somewhat celebrated for its peculiar geological formation; Lovewell's Pond, on the shores of which Capt. Lovewell, in 1725, fought a battle with the Pequaket tribe of Indians, under their chief, Paugus; and Pine Hill, are all within a short distance of the hotel. Pleasant Mountain, about nine miles distant, in an easterly direction, in full view from the village, is about three thousand feet high; there is a public house on its summit for the accommodation of visitors.

Fine distant views of the mountains are gained all along the route. Conway and the route to the Notch are spoken of on the 160th and following pages.

II. BOSTON TO WHITE MOUNTAIN NOTCH, VIA DOVER, ALTON BAY, WOLFBOROUGH, CENTRE HARBOR, AND CONWAY.

Distance from Boston to Alton Bay, ninety-six miles.

The distance from Boston to Centre Harbor, by this route, is greater than by the route through Concord,

N. H. But the ride by rail is seven miles shorter, while an additional twenty miles of Lake Winnipesaukee is traversed on board the steamer. The new steamer Mt. Washington, under the charge of Capt. A. Wiggin, now runs in the place of the old steamer Dover. This is a most comfortable and rapid boat, and Capt. Wiggin is a very pleasant and gentlemanly commander, and has been connected with the steamer Dover since it was first built. The time is nearly the same as by the route via Concord. The cars leave Boston at the same time, and the boat reaches Centre Harbor about half an hour later than by the Concord route, but in season for the stages for Conway.

The tourist leaves Boston by the cars of Boston and Maine Railroad, from Haymarket Square, at 7.30 A. M., reaching Alton Bay about 12 o'clock. The train that leaves Boston at 12 o'clock reaches here about 4.30 P. M., connecting with the steamer Mt. Washington for Wolfeborough and Centre Harbor. For a further description of the route and of the lake, see page 146.

III. BOSTON TO WHITE MOUNTAINS, VIA CONCORD, N. H.

The traveller leaves Boston for Concord, either by the cars of the Boston and Maine Railroad, from Haymarket Square, or of the Lowell Railroad, from Causeway Street. Should he take the former route, he will pass to Lawrence, where the Manchester and

Lawrence Railroad diverges from the Boston and Maine, and passes on to Manchester, where a union is effected with the train on the Concord Railroad from below.

On leaving Boston by the Boston and Lowell Railroad, the traveller will pass through Lowell and Nashua to Manchester, where the trains intersect as above.

Eighteen miles farther is Concord, the capital of New Hampshire. The amount of railroad building, work, furniture, etc., here visible, is probably greater than in any place of even twice its size throughout the country. It is the depot of four distinct railways, and at the hours of half past ten and three, when the great trains, northward and southward, are made up, a scene of apparently irremediable confusion is presented to the spectator, not unfrequently adorned with quite novel and amusing incidents.

From Concord four distinct routes to the mountain region present themselves to the traveller. One is over the Northern, and the other three over the Montreal Railroad.

1. Concord to Franconia, via Northern, Connecticut, and Passumpsic, and White Mountains Railroad. Distance 140 miles; from Boston, 212. Fare from Boston to Franconia, $9.00; from Concord, $6.75. Time from Boston, 12 hours.

The Northern Railroad extends from Concord to White River Junction, following the course of the Merrimack as far as Franklin, when it crosses to the Connecticut over the high lands of central New Hamp-

shire. The road is admirably conducted, and furnishes a favorite route. At Fisherville the road crosses the Contoocook River and Dustin's Island, so named from its being the camping ground of a party of Indians, from whom a captive woman, Mrs. Dustin, made her escape in colonial times. Just before reaching Franklin the traveller will notice, upon the right of the track, the former residence of the late Hon. Daniel Webster. It is a comfortable, old-fashioned house, among the trees, and just the place to furnish repose to the statesman jaded in the conflicts of party and of the forum. Franklin is a busy village. At Potter Place may be seen, on the left of the track,

Mt. Kearsarge.

This is the mountain for which the steamer was named that was afterwards immortalized by the destruction of the "Alabama." Near the summit, and commanding a fine view of the surrounding country, is an excellent hotel, named in honor of the commander of the "Kearsarge" the Winslow House. The ascent to the summit from the hotel is easy, and the view delightful. The mountain is 2,461 feet high.

On the right of the track, about two miles before reaching Potter Place, is the Procter House, a new and convenient hotel, accommodating about 150 guests. This hotel is open during the whole year, under the management of John S. Thompson. Price, $3 a day, or $14 to $20 per week.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, where the road crosses the Connecticut, and a union is effected with the trains from the valley of the Connecticut. This place is important only from the fact that it is the convergent and divergent point of the eight railroad trains, which here meet and separate over the Passumpsic, Northern, and Vermont Central Railroads. It is distant from New York, 265 miles; from Boston, 152 via Fitchburg, 142 via Lowell; from Wells River 40; from Willoughby Lake 80; and from Franconia Notch 60 miles. There is often considerable confusion here, occasioned by the arrival and departure of the numerous trains, and by the efforts of passengers going in different directions to secure their proper conveyance. In the calmest state of mind, however, let the tourist, after refreshment, for which there is ample time, step into the cars of the *Passumpsic* Railroad, sure that he is right, and he will soon go ahead through, perhaps, the most delightful region of country which he has yet seen.

The Connecticut and Passumpsic Rivers Railroad connects White River with the Grand Trunk Railway at Lennoxville, and forms the most direct line between New York and Quebec.

The extent and variety of the scenery on this portion of the route are greater than is ever imagined by those who have never visited it. The great diversity and contrast of the views are alone sufficient to astonish and delight. Hill and valley, precipice and plain,

— sharp, angular declivities, without a vestige of verdure, and smooth, smiling meadow lands, covered with the greenest sward and the heaviest crops; a great surface of river on the one hand, unruffled and seemingly motionless, a little mountain stream on the other, dashed into foam by the speed of its descent, — all these totally different and dissimilar prospects are so intermingled with one another as to be a constant source of surprise and satisfaction.

But, divested of these more distant views, there is still something startling in the sudden changes presented to the eye over the very track itself: at one instant the cars are sweeping smoothly along the most beautiful of meadows; the next they are, apparently, penned within the solid rock, that rises fifty feet upon either hand; they dash out upon a great embankment, that is invisible, and seemingly fly across the chasm which is beneath; they tremble along the lofty grade, which falls precipitously into the darkness and resonance of a bridge; emerge to sunlight by the side of some beautiful pond, and slowly draw to a halt in a quiet New England village.

Mt. Cuba, Sunday Mountain, Black Mountain, Mt. Sago, and Moosilauke are among the peaks near the railroad, and visible in this part of the journey.

Newbury, thirty-five miles from White River, is chiefly noted for its Sulphur Springs, as infallible a specific as patent medicine for many diseases. Mt. Pulaski is not far distant. From its summit a lovely view is presented of the Connecticut valley, its wide-

spread farms and thriving villages. Passing through a tremendous cut in the solid rock, we reach

Wells River, the junction of the Montreal, the Passumpsic, and Montpelier and Wells River Railroads. The two latter form the connections north, south, and west in Vermont, while the Montreal furnishes the avenue to the mountains. Crossing the Connecticut River, the route lies up the Ammonoosuc to the Fabyan House, or stopping at Bethlehem station, by stage to Bethlehem Street, or by rail over the Notch Road to the Profile House.

Littleton is about twenty miles from Wells River, and was formerly the terminus of all the railroad travel. As the roads have been extended, one by one the stage lines have been withdrawn, until the only one left is the stage to Bethlehem, five miles distant. The Profile House is only twelve miles from Littleton. The distance by rail is double that by the highway; but it is accomplished in an hour, while the stages usually required three hours. The fatigue of the journey is, of course, greatly diminished by the railroad. There are, however, many who are familiar with the delightful views to be obtained after reaching the summit of the long hill, which must be laboriously climbed on leaving Littleton, just as the setting sun illumines and glorifies the whole of the Franconia range, and who have watched with repeated pleasure the shadows stealing up the mountain sides, deepening the purple hues of the foliage into the darkest green, who would not be sorry to undergo all the trouble of the stage ride for

the gratification it affords. Such persons can now secure a private conveyance after reaching Littleton, or can engage it in advance by telegraphing to Thayer's Hotel.

Passengers for the Twin Mountain House, the Fabyan House, the top of Mt. Washington, the Crawford House, and the Notch Railroad, are carried on by the train to their several destinations over the Wing Road. The train also continues on the main road to Whitefield, Lancaster, and Northumberland, at which latter place connection is made with the Grand Trunk Railway.

Jefferson,

with its broad and extensive views of the mountains, and its score of hotels and boarding-houses, is now reached by the Whitefield and Jefferson Railroad. The cars of this road are to be found at the Whitefield station, and its terminus is only two miles from the village.

Lancaster

is the shire town of Coös County, and has been one of the most attractive places in the State for a summer visit. The loss of the large hotel, and the superior attractions of places nearer to the mountains, have caused it to be somewhat neglected. Its beautiful drives through the level intervales of the Connecticut, with the distant mountain views, cannot be surpassed.

Lakes Willoughby and Memphremagog.

Those who desire to visit Lakes Willoughby and Memphremagog, will continue their journey from Wells River over the Connecticut and Passumpsic Railroad to St. Johnsbury and Newport, without change of cars. At West Burke, thirty-seven miles from Wells River, stages leave for Lake Willoughby on the arrival of the cars. The distance is five miles. Those who intend to proceed directly to Lake Memphremagog, will continue their journey twenty-eight miles to Newport.

The ride from Wells River up the valleys of the Connecticut and Passumpsic Rivers is very charming. The Connecticut is left at Barnet. Now continually crossing and recrossing the Passumpsic, the road winds its way through a wild and picturesque portion of the country. At every village there is a fall. Indeed, a mill seems to have been the occasion of the clustering houses in the early settlement of the country. Several of these invite a much closer inspection than the hurrying train will allow. The traveller will do well, if he can, to particularly observe the rapids and falls just before reaching the town of Lyndon. The railroad crosses the river just at the head of the fall. St. Johnsbury, which is twenty miles from Wells River, is the most considerable town on this portion of the line.

Willoughby and Memphremagog should not be omitted from the programme of pleasure travel. They abound in pleasant scenery, and can now be reached at a moderate expense and with comparative ease. The lakes and streams emptying into them, and the circumjacent ponds, abound in trout and other kinds of fish. The hills upon the shore lie pleasantly basking in the sunshine, and the whole place ever breathes the sweet influence of contentment and peace. Those who know the region, and the route thither, need not be reminded of its quiet and repose, while those who have yet the pleasure in reserve, need but a single suggestion to induce them to test its attractions.

Willoughby Lake

is a beautiful sheet of water, between six and seven miles in length, and varying from half a mile to two miles in width. It is of a crescent shape, with little inlets and promontories along its shores. As you approach from the south, there suddenly rise up before you two mountain peaks, so near and so like each other, that you are almost persuaded that they have been separated by human effort. Between these, and extending still farther to the north, lies the lake. It is within a gap or chasm of the Green Mountain range, and forms a great reservoir for the brooks in the immediate vicinity. The waters of the lake discharge, through a small stream, into the St. Francis, and thence into the St. Lawrence. The brooks and

rivulets, however, which are crossed a few rods before reaching the hotel, flow into the Passumpsic and down the Connecticut.

The loveliness of the lake is greatly enhanced by the rough and precipitous scenery around it. The lake is all beauty and repose, while the mountains, rising so abruptly from the shore that there is room for little more than a carriage-way, are rough and angular.

At some remote day the two peaks that now tower on either side of the lake undoubtedly formed a single summit, and were separated by some of the volcanic throes whose traces are so visible throughout this region. Mt. Ananance, the peak upon the eastern shore, is one thousand nine hundred and fifty feet high. It receives its name from a chief of the St. Francis tribe which once lived here. A modern attempt to christen it "Pisgah" has fortunately been unsuccessful. The unnamed summit confronting Mt. Ananance, on the opposite side of the lake, is fifteen hundred feet high. Here, a short distance from the water, there is a sparse growth of pine, fir, spruce, cedar, and hemlock, rapidly dwindling into dwarf birch and shrubs. The soil they cover is thin and rocky, evidently a *detritus* from the mountains. This vegetation is on an angle, from the side of the mountain, of at least forty-five degrees, and extends up about six hundred feet. It is terminated by the solid rock, which rises from above the tree-tops a thousand feet perpendicularly. A forest of stunted pine and hemlock bristles around the summit,

cleared away, however, for a little space on the highest elevation, so as to afford a view of the surrounding country.

From this observatory, easily attained on horseback, and nearly reached with a carriage, there is a most beautiful landscape visible. Lake Memphremagog and Owl's Head Mountain are twenty miles to the north; Lake Champlain and its shipping fifty miles to the westward; every prominent part of the White Mountains, the entire range of the Green Mountains, Massaweepee Lake, — the beautiful pond in Westmoreland Burke and Newark, — are all fairly visible from the summit of Mt. Ananance.

Near the "Devil's Den," — a doubtful-looking hole in the rock, about midway down the lake shore, — it is said no soundings can be obtained, although fabulous quantities of line have been expended in the attempt. Above this spot, some six hundred feet on the hillside, and just at the base of a precipitous rock, there is what has been named the Flower Garden — a spot where all varieties of wild plants grow and blossom. And still higher than the Flower Garden, in the rock itself, where the foot of man never trod, and probably never will, is the Eagle's Eyry. All these spots, and the traces of many an avalanche and land-slide, may be seen by the tourist in sailing down the lake.

The Willoughby Lake House, by Alonzo Bemis, is a three-story edifice, located about one hundred rods from the lake, and commanding a fine view of it. There is a large piazza extending around the house and

a promenade deck along the roof. The house is well arranged. The sleeping-rooms are spacious, the parlors well furnished, and the tables well provided. Fish abound in the lake, and especially the *muscalonge*, a species of pickerel peculiar to the lake.

Memphremagog Lake.

Newport, situate on Memphremagog Lake, is sixty-five miles from Wells River. The railroad station is in the basement of the Memphremagog House, a new and fine hotel. This hotel is about 90 by 50 feet, four stories high, with an addition 25 by 50 feet, five stories high. It is an excellent hotel, and is kept by Messrs. Robinson & Gardner. As the steamer leaves Newport in the morning and returns at night, the tourist can, if he chooses, make this hotel his head-quarters, and spend the day upon the lake.

The lake is a beautiful sheet of water, extending nearly forty miles to the north. It lies partly in Vermont and partly in Canada. Its width varies from one to six miles. The islands, though not numerous, add much to the loveliness of the scene. On the western side the shore rises abruptly in many places to the height of several hundred feet, while on the eastern it is comparatively level and well cultivated. As you sail along the lake, you see the farm-houses, each with its meadows and woodland near at hand, indicating a prosperous agricultural community. There are several towns and villages of respectable population along the shore.

At half-past seven o'clock in the morning the steamboat LADY OF THE LAKE will be ready at her wharf. near the hotel, to receive her freight. This steamer is of iron ; and it was built on the Clyde, expressly for this service. By frequently crossing and recrossing the lake, the trip from Newport to Outlet Village is not less than fifty miles in length, though the lake does not exceed forty. Capt. Fogg, who is as pleasant and accommodating as he looks, was the builder and owner of the steamer for which the present was named. He is never happier than when he has under his protection a party who thoroughly enjoy the beauties of the lake. Soon after leaving Newport, he will, if requested, point out a full-length reclining figure, formed by the contour of the hills and mountains beyond Owl's Head.

About half way down the lake, on the western side, is situated, on the very shore, OWL'S HEAD MOUNTAIN, and, nestled in a lovely nook at its base, the MOUNTAIN HOUSE. Owl's Head is 2,743 feet high. A footpath leads to its summit, which can be reached in one or two hours' climbing. The origin of the name is as yet a puzzle. The mountain is well wooded almost to its very summit. But as you emerge from the shelter of the woods to the bare rocks on the northern side, a most beautiful view breaks upon you. Immediately at your feet lies the lake, visible for its entire length. Every bay and island can be clearly seen. Beyond is the level plain, thickly studded with farm-houses, with here and there a village and a pond.

To the south you see, near at hand, the twin peaks of Willoughby, as if guarding the gate to the towering peaks of the White Mountains, blue in the distance. Lake Champlain lies in the west, Massaweepee a little to the north, while the St. Lawrence and St. Francis can be clearly discerned still farther away. On a clear day, you can even discover the white towers of Montreal glistening in the sun. Owl's Head, from its comparatively isolated position, seems to stand sentinel over the golden treasures of the Canadian autumn. You feel, while gazing towards the north, that you have escaped from the mountain region. A little below the summit of Owl's Head is a natural amphitheatre formed by the rocks. Inscriptions are placed on the walls to show that this spot is annually made use of for a Masonic Lodge.

The Mountain House is the name of the hotel at the base. The house is a pleasant and convenient building; and is so surrounded by water, hills, and rocks, that, as you approach, you almost wonder how it found a resting-place in so secluded a spot. It was not open for some years, though it was formerly well patronized by the lovers of quiet and seclusion.

One of the chief attractions of the place is the abundance of fish. The muscalonge, a species of fish peculiar to the region, is caught in great abundance. Twenty pounds is by no means an uncommon weight for them to attain. Trout abound in the small ponds near by, which can easily be reached.

About a mile north of the hotel, the rocks rise almost perpendicularly from the water to the height of

some seven hundred feet. The water near the shore, though never sounded, probably is as deep as the rocks are high. An old fisherman, who lives upon the shore, has firm faith that an immense sea-serpent lurks here, and has spent days in trying to catch him. Capt. Fogg will tell you the story.

Outlet Village, so called from its situation at the outlet of the lake, where, by Magog River, the waters are poured into the St. Francis, is the terminus of the sail. A good dinner may be obtained on board the boat. A stage ride of sixteen miles brings you to Sherbrooke, where the cars of the Grand Trunk Railway may be taken for Montreal or Quebec. The railroads up the valley of the Connecticut, the sail over Memphremagog, and the Grand Trunk Railway from Sherbrooke, form one of the pleasantest and shortest routes between New York and Montreal. The time is about the same as by other routes, and the variety greater.

At Magog, in addition to the stage connection with Sherbrooke, there is a line of coaches to Waterloo, on the Stanstead, Shefford & Chambly Railroad.

The Lady of the Lake makes but one trip a day, leaving Newport in the morning and returning in the afternoon, reaching Newport about six o'clock. Capt. Fogg, however, lives at Georgetown, about half way down the lake, to which he returns on Saturday night, after completing his trip to Newport. Of this opportunity for a sail all the young people along the shore between Georgetown and Newport avail themselves. They go down to Newport, and return in the

evening. The steward furnishes music, and the promenade-deck a ball-room.

From Newport, the Eastern Counties Railway furnishes direct communication with Montreal, by both a day and night train, with Pullman cars.

2. Concord to White Mountains, via Montreal Railroad.

Three different routes are presented to the tourist over this road. (1.) He may go by rail to the Profile House, the Twin Mountain, Fabyan, or Crawford House, or to Jefferson, as by the Northern Railroad just described. (2.) He may leave the cars at Plymouth, and proceed directly to the Profile House by stage. (3.) The cars may be left at the Weirs, and the traveller may pursue his journey to the White Mountain Notch and Glen House via Centre Harbor and Conway.

1. Cars to Profile House and Fabyan's.

This route is shorter than by the Northern Railroad. It has the advantage of passing by the shores of Winnipesaukee Lake. The express-train, connecting with the cars from the New York boats at Nashua, leaves Boston at 8 o'clock A.M.; arrives at Plymouth at 12.35, where there is a delay of half an hour for dinner; Littleton at 3.25, where the stage connection for the Franconia House is made; Bethlehem at 4, where the cars of the Notch Road are taken for the Profile House; and at the Fabyan House at 4.20, connecting with the evening train up

Mt. Washington. Returning, the express-train leaves the Fabyan House at 9.10 A.M., nearly two hours later than the mail-train. It does not connect at Wells River with the Passumpsic Railroad. The mail-train leaves Boston at 7 and 7.30 A.M., and is overtaken and passed by the express-train at Concord, reaches Wells River at 4 o'clock, and then connects with the train over the Passumpsic Railroad from White River Junction. This train arrives at Littleton at 5 (Profile House at 8), at the Fabyan House at 6.16, and at Lancaster at 6.16. As the express-train goes no farther than Lancaster, passengers for the Grand Trunk Railway by that train wait till the arrival of the accommodation before going on.

There is also a morning train from Plymouth at 7.30, which reaches Littleton at 11.06, the Profile House in season for dinner, and the Fabyan House at 12. Returning, this train leaves the Fabyan House at 1.30 P. M., and connects with the express-train from Montreal, arriving in Boston at 10.30 P. M.

Should the preference be given for the route over the Montreal Railroad, the tourist will find the cars of the road ready to start upon the arrival of the train from Boston. The road crosses the Merrimack River soon after leaving the Concord station, and continues up that river, upon its eastern bank, through the villages of Canterbury, Northfield, Sanbornton Bridge, — where the road crosses a portion of Lake Winnipesaukee, called the Great Bay, — Laconia, and Lake Village to "Weirs." Here the steamer LADY OF THE LAKE, **is ready to start for Centre Harbor. A description of this lake is given on the 146th and following pages.**

The ride by rail from Concord to the Weirs, occupying a little over an hour, is one of the most agreeable to be found in the whole mountain trip. Soon after leaving the station at Concord the road winds over the intervals of the Merrimack, crosses the river, and rises to a considerable elevation above the river bed. This enables one to catch some beautiful views across the valley of the Merrimack, with Mt. Kearsarge, in Andover, forming the chief attraction. After leaving Sanbornton Bridge, where the River Winnipesaukee is crossed, the road lies along Lake Winnisquam, or Great Bay, a portion of which is crossed at LACONIA, the stopping-place for Gilford, where the traveller will find a good hotel kept by A. L. MORRISON. Mt. Belknap, four and a half miles distant, is much visited. The Canterbury Shakers are only twelve miles distant — a pleasant ride. The citizens are very hospitable. The lake, also, may be visited from this place. Still following the course of the Winnipesaukee River, which presents a continual succession of beautiful views, with Mt. Belknap constantly in sight, the Wiers is reached.

Those who do not go by the way of the lake, continue their journey through Meredith Village and Holderness, and arrive at PLYMOUTH soon after noon. Having fortified the inner man with the good cheer of our host, we return to the cars, and proceeding through Quincy, Rumney, Wentworth, Warren, and Haverhill, with Carr's Mountain, Moosilauke, and the spurs of the Franconia range in sight, reach Wells River. From this point the train proceeds, without

detention, up the valley of the Ammonoosuc, over the White Mountain Railroad to Littleton, arriving there about 4 o'clock. See page 194.

MOOSILAUKE MOUNTAIN, as has just been said, is in sight from the road between Plymouth and Wells River. As this mountain is one of the highest in the vicinity, some tourist may desire to visit it. To do this, he should leave the cars at Warren, twenty miles from Plymouth. The Moosilauke House, D. G. Marsh, proprietor, just enlarged, will here provide for the accommodation of guests. Three or four miles from the village is a lead mine, which is now abandoned. The distance from the depot to the base of the mountain is five miles. From the base, a carriage road four miles long has been built to the summit. A comfortable hotel, like those on Mt. Washington, has been erected, which is kept by David Q. Clement. His price is $4.00 per day. Prof. A. Guyot also made an excursion to this mountain, and we are permitted to make the following extract from a letter written by him, descriptive of the view: —

"The panorama which is before your eyes at the summit of Moosilauke is nearly the most extensive I have found in New England, not excepting even that from Mts. Washington and Lafayette, over which it possesses many advantages. This is due to the insulated position of that mountain outside of the group of the White Mountains proper, combined with its great elevation, which surpasses by 1,000 feet to 1,500 feet the surrounding heights, while it is less than 500 feet

below the summit of Lafayette. The eye thus embraces at a single glance in the north and north-east all the chains of the White Mountain group from Lafayette and Mt. Washington to the high peaks of the central, southern, and eastern chains in Sandwich and Conway. Towards the north-west the view extends into Canada; on the west and south-west the whole State of Vermont, with its long and continuous chain of the Green Mountains; towards the south and east the whole State of New Hampshire, with its innumerable scattered hills and lakes, among which Winnipesaukee is conspicuous, and a part of Maine, complete the grand, instructive, raised map which is opened before the beholder. Moosilauke, which is now so accessible by the way of the Boston, Concord, and Montreal Railroad, and by means of a path recently cut through the forest to the summit, deserves to take a distinguished place among the high summits visited by the lovers of mountain scenery."

The trip from the depot to the summit may be made in about four hours, and the price for the carriage ride up the mountain is $4.00. The fare at the hotel will probably be $4.00 a day.

It is in contemplation to construct a road from Warren to Franconia. If this is done, it will be the shortest route to Franconia, the distance being only fourteen miles from the railroad. From the summit of Moosilauke to Franconia the distance is only eight miles.

2. FRANCONIA, via PLYMOUTH. The traveller, as

we said before, may leave the cars at Plymouth and proceed directly up the valley of the Pemigewasset to Franconia. This is, by far, the shortest and most direct route to this part of the mountain region. The distance from Boston to Franconia is 145 miles; from Concord, 75. The time from Boston is nine hours. Leaving New York by the evening boats, one may be in Franconia in season for tea the next day. Fare, from Boston, $8.00; from Concord, $5.25.

Leaving Concord in the cars, as indicated on page 203, we arrive at PLYMOUTH in season for dinner. There are many objects of interest at Plymouth, and if one desires to remain and become acquainted with the charms of the locality, the PEMIGEWASSET HOUSE is a desirable tarrying place for all in quest of health or pleasure. Plymouth Village has a lovely situation, in the midst of the finest scenery. From Walker's Hill can be obtained a capital view of the village and the river. Livermore's Falls, two miles north of the village, present a remarkable appearance. They are probably the result of volcanic action, and invite the attention of the student of science and the lover of nature. Prospect Hill affords an unsurpassed view of the most diversified character, and an excursion thither is one of the most agreeable methods of spending a leisure afternoon. It is but four miles distant from the hotel, and a good carriage road has been built to its very summit. Mountain, valley, lake, and river, interspersed with fertile meadows, shining cottages, and thrifty villages, within a circuit of thirty miles,

meet the delighted eye in every direction, while in the north the rugged cliffs and peaks of the Franconia and White Mountain ranges rise like everlasting towers. This is considered by some, the finest view south of the mountains. The late Gov. Hill, who visited the summit several years ago, spoke of it in the most enthusiastic terms. The towns in both the valleys of the Pemigewasset and Baker's River, are to be seen below. Chocorua in the east, Belknap in the south, Monadnock in the south-west, Moosehillock in the north-west, and the Franconia and White Mountain ranges in the north, lift their summits before the delighted eye. The silvery sheen of Squam and Winnipesaukee brightens the landscape. The beautiful valley of the Pemigewasset, dotted with elms, winds gracefully to the south, indicating the course of the river, by its fertile meadows, far in the distance.

The Pemigewasset House, at Plymouth, which is situated on the side of the railroad track, is a new and excellent hotel just erected. The old Pemigewasset House, which stood on the same site, was destroyed by fire in 1862. The new hotel, which is without exception the finest in the State, is 230 feet in front, with a wing of 80 feet, and is four stories high. There are 130 sleeping rooms, all of which are lighted by gas, and are large and commodious. There are also many suites of rooms for families. The parlor is a large and spacious apartment, elegantly furnished, fronting the south. The dining-room is a spacious hall, on the main floor, lighted by large windows, and without a

single column or pillar to mar its symmetry. The office is also a commodious hall in the centre of the house, with a stairway leading from the railway platform below. On the roof is a large observatory, from which may be had a fine view of the valleys of the Baker and Pemigewasset Rivers, and also of Lafayette, Osceola, and almost the entire range of the Waterville and Franconia Mountains. No pains have been spared to make this hotel complete in every particular, to finish it in a style of which even city hotels need not be ashamed, and it is well adapted to the wants of a first-class summer hotel. It is now under the charge of C. M. Morse, manager, who will make every exertion to give satisfaction. The passenger depot of the Boston, Concord, and Montreal Railroad is in the basement, rendering it very convenient for those passing through Plymouth to dine. Plymouth has always been a favorite place of resort, and will now be doubly so since the erection of the new hotel.

Good trout-fishing may be found at Waterville, eighteen miles distant. This village is a very delightful retreat, and by the initiated is considered the gem of this locality. It was formerly the resort of a few visitors who "knew" the mountains, and whose tales of beautiful scenery, magnificent trout-fishing, and the like, stimulated public curiosity.

Devil's Den is a cave from three to four hundred feet deep, and is situated in Campton Hollow, six miles distant from Plymouth.

If the traveller desires to be independent of stage coaches and railroads, in his farther travels through the mountains, he can obtain horses and drivers at the livery stables in the village. Should the tourist prefer the stage coach to the rail from Plymouth, he will enjoy a most delightful ride of twenty-nine miles to the PROFILE HOUSE, tracing the course of the Pemigewasset River. The road in some places is rather rough, but the weariness of the way is amply compensated by the variety of beautiful objects that are every where presented to the view. The river meanders in its winding course, now with placid and quiet current through green meadows, and now in rapid and headlong torrent over its pebbly bed, while little cascades are bursting from the hills, falling in sheeted foam over the opposing rocks, to make their way to the welcoming stream below. As the route leaves the village, the mountains begin to appear in the distance. As the distance lessens, the white porticos of the Flume House are seen, welcoming our approach. The hotel seems like a "nest among the mountains," as it is relieved by the dark mass amid which it rests. The little villages of Campton and Thornton are the resort of artists, who spend weeks in the vicinity, sketching for future studies. Campton is said to contain more points for fine prospects than any town in the neighborhood. A quiet little inn upon the roadside looks the abode of comfort. Woodstock and Lincoln are small towns, of no particular note. The road is now in the midst of the mountain region. The dark hills loom up on every

side as the day departs. The Pemigewasset, now reduced to a little brook, murmurs at our feet. We have seen the summits of the hills brighten in the rich glow of sunset. The clouds are tinged with golden light, changing to soft purple and the gray of evening. The stars come out; the moon sends her gentle rays down into the valley. In the late twilight, after a half day's exquisite enjoyment, we enter the delightful and quiet scenery of the Notch road, passing the Flume House, and soon alight beneath the grateful shelter of the PROFILE HOUSE. The stage fare from Plymouth is $3.50.

3. WHITE MOUNTAIN NOTCH, via Conway, Lake Winnipesaukee, and Concord. Distance from Boston, 172 miles; time, 36 hours.

At the WEIRS (thirty-two miles from Concord, 106 from Boston, and seventy-three from White Mountain Notch), we leave the cars of the Boston, Concord, and Montreal Railroad (see page 200), and find ourselves on Lake Winnipesaukee. The route from this point is described on the 146th and following pages. The traveller can leave the lake as there indicated either at Centre Harbor or Wolfborough, or he can return to the Weirs and proceed, via Plymouth, as already suggested. The route via Conway is the most leisurely approach to Mount Washington, but yet one of the most attractive. It was at first the only thoroughfare by which Mt. Washington was approached, and only lost its supremacy by the building of the railroads on each side of the mountains.

Boston to the White Mountain Notch, via the Eastern Railroad.

This is now the shortest route to the Crawford House. The cars leave the Eastern Railroad depot in Boston. The route is via Newburyport and Portsmouth, and thence over the Great Falls and Conway Railroad to North Conway. The distance to North Conway is 136 miles.

The time by the express-trains, on which are Pullman cars, is about six hours. At North Conway connection is made with the Portland and Ogdensburgh for the Crawford and Glen Houses.

Mount Mansfield.

There are various routes from New York, which finally leave their passengers on one of the routes already described, at points more or less remote from the mountains, which it is not necessary to enumerate. So also the routes through Canada leave their passengers on the routes to the mountain by the way of the Grand Trunk, the Passumpsic, or the Central Vermont. Should the latter be chosen, the tourist will pass near Mansfield Mountain.

We should fail to do our duty did we not call the attention of tourists among the mountains to this charming spot, which is so attractive for its mountain-views, and is so near one of the great highways of travel.

Stowe is distant 10 miles from Waterbury, a station

on the Vermont Central Railroad, 70 miles north of White River Junction. The mail and express trains both stop at this station. Tourists from Montreal, via Rouse's Point, pass through it, while those leaving the mountains, via Littleton, have only to take the train on the Vermont Central Road at White River Junction. Through tickets from Boston to the summit of Mansfield Mountain can also be obtained at the office of the Vermont Central Railroad in Boston.

Waterbury is a small and quiet country village. A company has been organized, and has erected a large and commodious hotel near the depot, which is now open for the accommodation of guests.

Camel's Hump in the immediate vicinity, is the highest peak of the Green Mountains, except Mansfield Mountain, and is easily accessible from this place. The summit is 4,188 feet above the sea-level, and commands a magnificent view in all directions. It is easy of ascent, and the trip can be accomplished with inconsiderable fatigue. A few miles below the village are Bolton Falls, exceedingly picturesque, and the delight of beauty-loving travellers.

Stages leave Waterbury for Stowe regularly on the arrival of the mail trains; and special stages leave on the arrival of the other trains when any considerable party desires conveyance. The distance is 10 miles, over what was once a plank road, and is now a very comfortable stage road. The time is an hour and a half or two hours, and the fare $1.00.

THE MANSFIELD HOUSE

will be reached by the traveller from the south about half past six o'clock P. M. This is a new hotel just erected by the Mansfield Hotel Co., under the immediate superintendence of their accomplished President, W. H. H. Bingham, Esq. Mr. Bingham resides in Stowe, and, by his unceasing labors and thorough acquaintance with the mountains here, has gained for himself the title of "King of the Mansfield Mountains." The hotel occupies the site on which formerly stood the modest inn that once sufficed for the wants of travellers, and which now forms one of the wings of the new building. It is a large and elegant structure, with a piazza running the entire length of the front. Being newly and thoroughly built, with all the modern improvements of plumbing, and of bathing rooms, lighted throughout with gas, with large parlors, spacious lodging-rooms, a fine, large dining-room, and a hall over the dining-room of equal size for dancing and evening entertainments, it cannot fail to be an attractive place of resort. It is the largest and best appointed hotel in the state of Vermont. N. P. KEELER, the landlord, is well known to the many people who have visited Stowe and its pleasant environs. The public can be assured that this hotel will be well kept and deserve their patronage. The price per day is $3.50, with a considerable discount by the week.

There are many objects of attraction at Stowe, and many beautiful rides and excursions can be made to

the country in the vicinity. The chief of all, however, and the one to which we should first call attention, is the

Ascent of Mansfield Mountain.

This mountain is of peculiar shape. By an exercise of the imagination, the summits can be made to resemble the profile of the human face lying supine. The forehead, the nose, the chin, are all thus projecting upwards. The chin, the highest summit, is at an elevation of about 4,400 feet above the sea-level, and is the highest of the whole Green Mountain range.

There is now a carriage-road from Stowe to the Summit House.

The distance from the hotel to the summit is nine miles. For five miles the road is over the usual travelled highway. At the mountain-base the road branches off, and the ascent commences. The path, however, is not very steep, and is kept in excellent order. Two miles and a half of a pretty steady ascent, for the greater part of the way through a pleasant forest, brings the traveller to the half-way house, where the carriage-road once ended, and saddle-horses were taken. Here one ought to make a long pause, if for no other purpose than to look at the magnificent view spread out before him. At his feet lie the lovely Valley of Stowe, which has just been left, and the smooth, green farms; and, beyond, the hills and higher summits of the Green Mountains. If the air be very clear, the summit of Mt. Washington is dimly visible, though almost hidden by the nearer hills.

A clear spring of pure water, a little distance from the stable, may be visited before starting on the ascent of the remainder of the peak.

The journey is soon accomplished; nor will any part of the road be found wearisome or disagreeable. For the greater part of the way, the view is hidden by the trees; but here and there we catch glimpses of a wooded ravine extending to the very base of the mountain, and far away to the north towards Smuggler's Notch, through whose frowning walls are pleasant vistas, closed in the distance by beautiful green fields.

The Summit House.

is situated at the very base of the Nose. It is owned by the Mansfield Hotel Company, and is under the charge of Mr. William P. Walker. The main part of the house, in which is the large reception room and office, as well as sleeping rooms, is fifty by thirty feet. The ell is forty by twenty-four feet, and contains the dining-room, while the kitchen is still farther in the rear. The house is neatly and thoroughly finished and furnished, and is quite as comfortable as many larger hotels nearer sea-level. It is a far more complete hotel than any other summit house in New England. It is also more favorably situated, being near the summit of the mountain, full 4000 feet above sea-level, and yet commanding the fine view towards the west of the valley of Stowe, the wooded side of Mansfield being visible to its very base, with no intervening sum-

mit to obstruct the vision, and the scene being closed in only by the White Mountain range. It is distant nine miles from the Mansfield House; the time of the ascent is usually about three hours, and the price for each person, including pony, is $3.00. The company own the livery stable near the hotel, and have a good supply of trusty horses for this as well as for other excursions. Orders can be given at the office of the Mansfield House, which will be promptly attended to. The price of board at the Summit House is $3.50 per day.

The Nose and the Chin.

are the names of the two highest peaks. The former towers directly over the Summit House. It is ascended by a rough path on the western side, far more resembling a flight of stairs than the slope of a mountain side. The northern side presents a steep and sheer precipitous descent, down which you may look from the summit at least 500 feet. Several large pieces of the cliff have been detached from time to time and fallen in ruins below, and it seems by no means improbable that others may share their fate. The Nose is only a short walk from the hotel.

To ascend the Chin, however, requires more time, though the journey is less fatiguing. There is no such precipitous ascent, but the mountain slopes gently away towards the hotel. It is distant about a mile and a half from the house, and consequently takes a longer time than the ascent of the Nose, as you must walk

the whole distance. It is some 300 feet higher than the Nose, and commands, in consequence, a more extended view.

The scene that is spread out before the eye, on either of the summits, is extremely beautiful. It differs from the views from the greater part of the White Mountains, as there, in whatever direction you look, nothing is to be seen but the rugged mountain tops, with the valleys here and there between. While here, besides a similar view towards the east, you have spread out before you, on the west, the fertile land of Western Vermont, comparatively level, though here and there diversified by hills, bordered by the silver waters of Lake Champlain, with the blue Adirondack Hills in the far distance beyond. To one fresh from the White Mountains, this view is singularly attractive. You see the farm-houses clustering into villages; you can follow the courses of the winding streams among the hills and forests; you can clearly see the dark green of the waving grain, and can almost distinguish the farmers at their toils. Among the peaks of the White Mountains you only see occasional traces of civilization, and it is the wildness that chiefly is impressed upon the mind. But here there seems to be another and a different sensation. The beauty of the landscape, the feeling that all this pleasant land is filled with life, together with the suggestion of the distant Adirondacks, that within their dark recesses is concealed an undiscovered world of loveliness, combine to enchain one irresistibly to the spot.

To the north may be seen the hills of Montreal, and, in a sunshiny day, the glistening spires of that city. Burlington can be identified on the lake shore by the same means. The whole of Lake Champlain, from Fort Ticonderoga to the extreme north, lies stretched out before you. Owl's Head, on the shores of Memphremagog Lake, lies away to the north. Eastward you can see the White Mountains closing in the field of view. In the south rise Camel's Hump and others of the Green Mountain range. From the Chin you may look down into the Smuggler's Notch, and even descend into it, if you have time and endurance.

On the way to the Chin may be seen, in many places, parallel lines marked on the rocks, in a uniform north and south direction, left here it is supposed when the mountain was covered with snow, and the glacier carried huge stones in its cold embrace. In one place are two large bowlders deposited on the mountain top, with the lines they made in reaching the eminence visible a few feet from them. These drift scratches have attracted much attention from geologists. To make this excursion to the Chin, and not be hurried, a night should be spent upon the mountain.

On the eastern side of the Nose the host of the Summit House will point out to you the "Old Man of Mansfield Mountain," if indeed you have not already noticed it. The profile is quite excellent, though not, of course, rivalling in regularity of features the "Old Man" of Franconia.

Moss Glen Falls.

Another trip to be made from the Mansfield House — and for this we would advise an early morning ride — is to Moss Glen Falls. These falls are to be found in a ravine of singular formation about four miles from the hotel, on one of the lower ridges on the north-eastern slope of Worcester Mountain. The source of the stream is a small pond on the table land above the bluff, which is about two hundred feet in height. The solid cliff seems here to have been cleft asunder, and the perpendicular walls are left standing in their majesty.

The same arrangement exists here, as at Catskill Falls, for increasing the volume of water, which in summer is often very low. But the dam and head of water are under the control of the proprietor of the saw-mill, who does not approve of having the water run to waste for the mere amusement of visitors. You will be fortunate, then, if you happen to visit the falls when there is a good head of water. The best point of view is about fifty feet up the cliff, on the side nearest the highway.

The charge for a team is $2.00 if less than three go, and 75 cents each for a larger number.

The Smuggler's Notch

must also be visited. It is a narrow mountain pass, said to be worn out by the action of water, to which a carriage road has just been built. A small hotel has

been erected in it by the Hotel Company, so that shelter can always be had. It is nine miles distant from the Mansfield House, and the charges for conveyance are the same as to the summit. The pass is wild and impressive. Huge bowlders have fallen from the mountain side, on which large trees are now growing. To the largest of them has been given the name of Brigham's Rock. There is here also a mammoth spring, with clear cold water flowing at all times in great abundance. There are traditions that this pass was formerly used by smugglers to carry on their contraband trade, and it seems well suited for that purpose, if the object was to cross easily from one side of the mountain to the other.

We have completed the description of the routes to the Mountains, as well as the description of the Mountains themselves. We have seen that all the various routes from New York are condensed, in reality, to three, as we approach the mountain region: one leaves us at Gorham, on the eastern side; the second at White Mountain Notch; and the third at Franconia. Upon what particular route the choice may fall, we would urge that the whole range, from Franconia to the "Glen," be visited if possible. In no other way can a complete idea of all the beauty and loveliness of this "Switzerland of America" be gained. It is well, also, to go by one and return by another route. Tickets *to* and *through* the region should not be pur-

chased at a distance, as circumstances may render it desirable to vary from a plan first laid down. Travellers coming from the Canadas, either by Rouse's Point or by the Grand Trunk Railway, should especially avoid purchasing through tickets with privilege of visiting the mountains on their journey. To use these tickets, travellers are compelled to leave the mountains at the place where they first approached, and must thus, frequently, needlessly retrace their steps.

For a more detailed description of the routes along the sea coast, and for a full description of the various places of resort on the sea shore in New England, from Newport, east, see "EASTMAN'S EASTERN COAST GUIDE."

ALTITUDES.

Alpine House	802 feet
Bethlehem	1,450 „
„ Bridge	1,221 „
Concord (R. R. Station)	237 „
Conway Intervals	471 „
Crawford House	1,920 „
Dixville Notch	1,831 „
Fabyan House	1,571 „
Franconia Village	921 „
„ Notch (highest point)	2,014 „
Flume House	1,431 „
Gilmanton Hill, summit between Franconia and Littleton,	1,329 „
Glen House	1,632 „
Lancaster	860 „
Littleton	817 „
North Conway Depot (Gt. F. & C.)	516 „
Pinkham Notch (highest point)	2,018 „
Plymouth	473 „
Profile House	1,974 „
Summit, between Franconia and Bethlehem	1,820 „
White Mountain Notch	1,914 „
Willey House	1,335 „
Winnipesaukee Lake	501 „

MOUNTAIN ALTITUDES.

Adams	5,794 feet
Baldface (Jackson)	3,600 „
Black Mountain (Sandwich House)	4,050 „
Cannon (Profile)	3,850 „

Carrigain	4,678 feet
Carter	4,830 ,,
Cherry	3,670 ,,
Chocorua	3,540 ,,
Clay	5,553 ,,
Clinton	4,320 ,,
Crawford	3,134 ,,
Cuba	2,927 ,,
Deception	2,449 ,,
Eagle Cliff	3,446 ,,
Franklin	4,904 ,,
Gunstock	2,394 ,,
Iron Mountain (Bartlett)	2,000 ,,
Jefferson	5,714 ,,
Kearsarge (Merrimack County)	2,943 ,,
Lafayette	5,259 ,,
Lincoln	5,101 ,,
Madison	5,365 ,,
Monroe	5,384 ,,
Moosilauke	4,811 ,,
Moriah	4,653 ,,
Mote	3,200 ,,
Osceola	4,400 ,,
Ossipee	2,361 ,,
Passaconway	4,200 ,,
Pequawket (Kiarsarge)	3,251 ,,
Pleasant	4,764 ,,
Prospect (Holderness)	2,072 ,,
Red Hill	2,038 ,,
Resolution	3,400 ,,
Sunset Hill (Centre Harbor)	885 ,,
Tin Mountain (Jackson)	1,650 ,,
Tripyramid (highest)	4,086 ,,
Twin	5,000 ,,
Washington	6,293 ,,
Welch	3,500 ,,
Whiteface	4,007 ,,
Willey	4,330 ,,
Willard	2,900 ,,

BOARDING-HOUSES.

The following is a list of most of the private boarding-houses in the mountain region. The name of the proprietor is followed by the number of persons he can accommodate; and then the price per week, depending on the accommodation required.

ASHLAND.

J. M. Cotton (Squam Lake House), 20 . . .

BARTLETT.

Frank George (Bartlett House), 60 . . . . $7 to 12

LOWER BARTLETT.

W. M. & A. Pitman (East Branch House) . . 7 to 10.50
Cornelius Stilphen, 20 . . . . . 6 to 8

LOWER BARTLETT (P.O., North Conway).

Edwin C. Stokes, 50 . . . . . 7 to 10
Cyrus A. Tasker, 25 . . . . . 7 to 10
C. C. Pendexter, 25 . . . . . 7 to 10

BERLIN FALLS.

Mount Forest House, 30 . . . . . 7 to 14

BETHEL, ME.

C. T. Bartlett . . . . . 6 to 10
Abiel Chandler, Jr. . . . . 6 to 8
Rev. S. L. Gould . . . . . 6 to 10
G. A. Hastings . . . . . 8 to 12
Mrs. I. C. Kimball . . . . . 6 to 10

Charles B. Lock . . . . . 6 to 8
Woodson Mason . . . . . 6 to 8
John Russell . . . . . 6 to 8
J. A. Stockbridge . . . . . 7 to 10
Alphin Twitchell . . . . . 6 to 10
C. L. Twitchell . . . . . 6 to 8
A. W. Valentine . . . . . 6 to 8

WEST BETHEL.

C. P. Grover . . . . . .
W. L. Grover . . . . . .

BETHLEHEM.

C. L. Bartlett, 30 . . . . . .
C. E. Bunker (Howard House), 40 . . . .
William G. Busher (Bethlehem House), 35 . .
J. K. Barrett (Strawberry Hill House), 60 . . 7 to 12
A. W. Blanden, 25 . . . . . 7 to 12
J. S. Crufts (Maplewood Hotel), 400 . . . 8 to 17.50
J. H. Clark (Sunset Cottage), 40 . . . .
C. H. Clark (Alpine House), 35 . . . . .
Durgin & Fox (Sinclair House), 300 . . . 10 to 17
D. F. Davis (Hillside House), 40 . . . . 7 to 10
G. L. Gilmore (Mountain View House), 30 . .
F. L. Kelly (Avenue House), 60 . . . 7 to 10
William McIntire, 14 . . . . . .
Horatio Nye (Mt. Agassiz House), 65 . . 7 to 12
George W. Phillips (Prospect House), 100 . .
David S. Phillips (Bellevue House), 60 . . .
Joseph Philbrick (Echo Cottage), 15 . . . .
George Russell, 28 . . . . . 7 to 10
W. E. Sanborn (Sanborn Cottage), 15 . . 7 to 10
William G. Simpson, 35 . . . . . .
James N. Turner, 50 . . . . . .
H. W. Wilder, 60 . . . . . .
L. Woodman, 10 . . . . . .
Mrs. Richard Wilder, 10 . . . . . .

EAST BETHLEHEM.

Vina Goodell, 40 . . . . . .

CAMPTON.

Joseph Blair, 40 . . . . . 7 to 10

CAMPTON VILLAGE.

Frank Chase, 40 . . . . . 7 to 10
Charles Cutter, 20 . . . . . 7 to 10
Osman C. Foss, 50 . . . . . 8 to 10
S. D. Kinsman, 16 . . . . . 7 to 10
Timothy W. Mitchell (Fountain House), 30 . . 7 to 9
Frederick A. Mitchell, 15 . . . . . .
Dr. William Smith, 16 . . . . . 7 to 10
William Thornton, 20 . . . . . 7 to 10
Charles G. Webster, 10 . . . . . 7 to 10
S. C. Willey, 16 . . . . . 7 to 10

WEST CAMPTON.

T. J. Sanborn, 60 . . . . . 7 to 1.
J. M. Smith, 10 . . . . . .
B. B. Southmayd, 10 . . . . . .

CENTRE HARBOR.

Almon Benson, 30 . . . . . 8 to 14
R. L. Coe, 15 . . . . . 7 to 14
J. B. Dow (Red Hill House), 20 . . . . .
G. N. Emery, 20 . . . . . 7 to 12
S. F. Emery (Moulton House), 75 . . . . 8 to 14
Timothy C. Gordon, 12 . . . . . 7 to 14
A. M. Graves, 20 . . . . . 8 to 14
J. L. Huntress (Senter House), 150 . . . . 15 to 20
B. F. Kelsea, 20 . . . . . 8 to 14
W. A. Page, 20 . . . . . .
C. H. Weeks, 12 . . . . . 7 to 12
B. F. Wentworth, 15 . . . . . 8 to 15
Stephen Wentworth, 14 . . . . . 7 to 10

COLEBROOK.

E. F. Bailey (Parsons House), 125 . . . .
T. G. Rowen (Monadnock House), 100 . . .
H. Bedell, 15 . . . . . .
Davis Graham, 15 . . . . . .

Eben Noyes, 10
Daniel Cummings, 15
G. A. Gleason, 6
C. F. Stacy, 10
J. C. Marshall, 10
E. D. Lambard, 10
E. G. Rogers, 6
W. H. Mulekin, 10
Mrs. Marshall, 6

DALTON.

Sumner House, 75

FRANCONIA.

William H. Brooks, 15
Jason Comer, 25 — 7 to 10
Charles Edson (Edson House), 30 — 7 to 10
E. H. Goodnow (Goodnow House), 100 — 7 to 12
Horace Knight (Valley House), 30 — 7 to 10
D. K. Priest, 16 — 7 to 10
H. W. Priest (Franconia House), 50 — 7 to 10
Richardson & Bishop (Lafayette House), 50 — 7 to 10
Daniel Quimby, 20 — 7 to 10
Levi I. Wells, 20 — 7 to 12

JACKSON.

N. T. Stillings (Glen Ellis House), 75 — 7 to 10.50
M. C. Wentworth (Thorn Mountain House) — 7 to 10.50
J. B. Trickey (Jackson Falls House), 50 — 7 to 10.50

JEFFERSON.

E. E. Bedell (Jefferson Hill House), 75
T. J. Bedell (Sunnyside House), 25 — 5 to 8
Mrs. Bowles (Maple House), 40 — 7 to 12
E. A. Crawford, 25
W. H. Crawford, 15
William Crawshaw (Mount Adams House), 50 — 7 to 10
J. R. Crocker (Waumbeck House), 125
C. K. Gile (Starr King House), 70 — 7 to 12
W. P. Merrill (Waumbeck Cottage), 50

B. H. Plaisted (Plaisted House), 100 . . . . 7 to 12
Levi Starbird, 20 . . . . . 7 to 10

LANCASTER.

Stephen Eames, 20 . . . . . .
Joseph Hopkins (Hopkins Hotel), 40 . . .
B. F. Hunking, 10 . . . . . .
Charles Larkin, 12 . . . . . .
S. P. Leighton (Williams House), 40 . . .
F. Richardson (American House), 75 . . .
W. L. Rowell (Hillside Cottage), 40 . . . .
Cummings Spaulding, 10 . . . . . .
Edward Spaulding, 10. . . . . .

LISBON.

F. J. Aldrich (Lisbon House), 60 . . . . 7 to 10
E. W. Bartlett (Elm House), 20. . . . . .
M. Bowles (Meadow House), 15. . . . . .
A. H. Elliott (Bluff House) 12 . . . . .
Miss E. M. Gleason, 10 . . . . . .
James Glynn (Dearborn House), 25 . . . .
A. W. Moore (Ammonoosuc House), 40 . . .
C. E. McAllister, 25 . . . . . .
Hiram Noyes (Sugar Hill House), 25 . . . 7 to 10

LITTLETON.

A. R. Burton, 20 . . . . . 5 to 9
G. Farr & Co. (Oak Hill House), 70 . . . .
Mrs. Jefferson Hosmer, 18 . . . . . 10 to 14
Deacon John Merrill, 12 . . . . . 5 to 9
W. A. Richardson (Union House), 40 . . .
H. L. Thayer (Thayer's Hotel), 100 . . . .
T. S. Washburn . . . . . 5 to 9

MEREDITH VILLAGE.

G. M. Burleigh (Elm House), 20 . . . .
W. E. Foss (Waukawan House), 30 . . . .
G. E. Gilman, 30 . . . . . .
Moses C. Pease, 30 . . . . . .
H. W. Lincoln (Prospect House), 60 . . .

NORTH CONWAY.

Barnes & Dow, 35 . . . . . 6 to 10
C. H. Bosworth (Eastman House), 50 . . .
John Albert Barnes, 25 . . . . . 7 to 13
Mrs. E. F. Densmore, 28 . . . . . 7 to 14
Mrs. S. C. Hill, 40 . . . . . .
Augustus Eastman (Artist Falls House), 60 . . 6 to 15
Thomas C. Eastman, 20 . . . . . 6 to 12
R. W. and S. D. Thompson (Kearsarge House), 300,
F. H. Mason (Mason Hotel), 50 . . . . .
John McMillan (McMillan House), 60 . . . 6 to 14
M. S. Mason (Sunset Pavilion), 100 . . . .
Mrs. Solomon D. Pendexter, 36 . . . . 7 to 12
F. & H. Russell, 30 . . . . . 7 to 12
John M. Seavey, 30 . . . . . 7 to 12
Levi Seavey, 20 . . . . . .
J. T. Randall (Randall House), 60 . . . . 6 to 15
N. R. Mason (North Conway House), 75 . . .
Levi Wheeler, 30 . . . . . 6 to 10
E. Whitaker, 20 . . . . . 6 to 10
James C. Willey, 30 . . . . . 7 to 12

PLYMOUTH.

Buchanan & Willis (Plymouth House), 50 . .
H. S. Chase, 20 . . . . . .
W. G. Hull, 30 . . . . . .
State Normal School, 50 . . . . . .
Eben K. Smith, 10 . . . . . .
C. M. Morse (Pemigewasset House), 300 . . . 14 to 17.50

RUMNEY.

Mrs. Harry Chapman, 4 . . . . . .
J. L. Emerson, 4 . . . . . .
George P. French, 8 . . . . . .
Charles Pease, 10 . . . . . .
J. H. Pease, 6 . . . . . .
Josiah Quincy, 10 . . . . . .
Reuben Robie, 8 . . . . . .
C. C. Smart, 12 . . . . . .
Mrs. J. L. Spalding, 10 . . . . . .

A. D. Spalter, 40 . . . . . .
O. W. Stevens, 12 . . . . . .
T. G. Stevens, 8 . . . . . .

THORNTON.

George Foss, 25 . . . . . .
George Jenkins, 10 . . . . . .
William Merrill, 30 . . . . . .

WARREN.

Breezy Point House, 50 . . . . . .
Moosilauke House, 40 . . . . . .
Nathan Merrill, 30 . . . . . .

WATERVILLE.

Merrill Greely, 50 . . . . . .

WEIRS STATION, LAKE WINNIPESAUKEE.

L. R. Weeks (Lake Side Hotel), 50 . . . .
J. A. Doolittle (Winnecoette House), 25 . . .

WEST THORNTON.

Grafton House, 25 . . . . . .

WOLFBOROUGH.

I. N. Andrews (Pavilion), 250 . . . . .
Alfred Brown, 20 . . . . . .
John G. Cate, 20 . . . . . .
B. Dickerson, 15 . . . . . .
John L. Haines, 20 . . . . . .
Daniel Horn (Bellevue), 75 . . . . . .
Levi Horn (Glen House), 75 . . . . .
George Kenniston (Lake House), 100 . . .
Mrs. Sarah A. Libbey, 30 . . . . . .
A. S. Libbey, 15 . . . . . .
James Lovering, 15 . . . . . .
I. B. Manning (Prospect House), 50 . . . .
John L. Meader, 40 . . . . . .
Mrs. Mary G. Newell, 25 . . . . . .
J. L. Peavey (Glendon House), 150 . . . .

Charles S. Parris, 20 . . . . . .
Jonas W. Piper, 30 . . . . . .
G. H. Phillips (Lake View House), 50 . . .
James J. Randall, 20 . . . . . .
Moses Varney, 30 . . . . . .

WOODSTOCK.

James Darling, 10 6
Isaac Fox, 35 . . . . . .
C. F. Parker, 15 7
Stephen S. Shanon, 18 7

NORTH WOODSTOCK.

William Dearborn, 12 7
George F. Russell, 25 7
J. W. E. Tuttle, 15 . . . . . .

BRIDGEWATER (Near Plymouth).

David Webster, 20 7
Mrs. Walter R. Webster, 15 7
J. B. Marston, 15 7

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PROFILE HOUSE,

Franconia Notch, White Mountains, N.H.

TAFT & GREENLEAF - - - Proprietors.

This favorite summer resort, situated nineteen hundred and seventy-two feet above tide water, is the largest hotel in New England, and has long been known and appreciated by thousands of summer visitors. The location of the hotel is well described by the **Rev. Dr. Prime:**—"A plain of a few cleared acres in extent, in a gorge that admits the passage of a narrow carriage-way, mountains two thousand feet high, rising almost perpendicularly on each side, with two lovely lakes lying under the hills and skirted with forests, has been chosen as a summer resort, and the site of a magnificent hotel, in which five hundred guests find refreshment and a cool retreat from the torrid heats that blight the world below. It is never hot at the Profile House."

FRANCONIA NOTCH—in which the Profile House is located—is a pass about five miles in extent, between the western wall of Lafayette and Mount Cannon.

Starr King says:—"The narrow district thus enclosed contains more objects of interest to the mass of travellers than any other region of equal extent within the usual compass of the White Mountain tour. In the way of rock-sculpture and waterfalls, it is a huge museum of curiosities. There is no spot usually visited in any of the valleys where the senses are at once impressed so strongly and so pleasantly with the wildness and freshness which a stranger instinctively associates with mountain scenery in New Hampshire."

Harriet Martineau said, "I certainly think the Franconia Defile the noblest mountain pass I saw in the United States."

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THE OLD MAN OF THE MOUNTAIN,—as it is familiarly called, which hangs upon one of the highest cliffs, twelve hundred feet above Profile Lake,—a piece of sculpture older than the Sphinx. It is unquestionably the most remarkable natural curiosity in this country, if not in the world.

THE FLUME, a wonderful freak of nature, is an upright fissure in the rocks, whose perpendicular walls on either side are from fifty to sixty feet in height, several hundred in length, and from ten to twenty feet apart. At the upper end, a huge bowlder, weighing many tons, is suspended between the walls, apparently with the slightest security. A small stream flows under the bowlder, and farther on forms a beautiful cascade over six hundred feet of polished rock.

THE BASIN AND POOL are also famous, as illustrating the wondrous doings of nature.

Within a short walk of the Profile House is **PROFILE LAKE,** a beautiful sheet of water, and one of the gems of mountain pictures. The finest trout live in its waters.

Also, **ECHO LAKE,** a clear, limpid sheet of water, of great depth and transparency. Here are the centres of most marvellous echoes.

PROFILE HOUSE AND ECHO LAKE, FRANCONIA NOTCH, WHITE MOUNTAIN S. N. H.

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UPPER BARTLETT STATION, P. & O. R.R.

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This new and popular house is now open for summer visitors, offering accommodations for 50 guests. It is situated in the valley of the Saco, in the shadow of Mt. Langdon, from the top of which, easily accessible by a bridle-path, can be obtained a panoramic view of the White Mountains and the Carrigan Range, unrivalled in wildness and grandeur.

TERMS:

$2.00 PER DAY. $7.00 TO $10.00 PER WEEK.

EASTMAN'S

EASTERN COAST GUIDE,

With Map of the Eastern Coast, and of the Railroads and Townships of New England; also a Map of Cape Cod Railroad.

This book is very useful to Travellers and Tourists, and interesting to the general reader; being a complete GUIDE BOOK to Newport, Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard, Cape Cod, South Shore, Eastern Railroad and Coast, Hampton, Rye, Old Orchard, and other Beaches, Mount Desert, and further East.

This is a companion book to Eastman's "White Mountain Guide."

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The *Commonwealth*, Boston, says: "The Eastmans of Concord, N.H., did good service with their 'White Mountain Guide.' They now have prepared an 'Eastern Coast Guide,' which is a hand-book of the coast from Newport to Mount Desert, — very full, very accurate, and just the thing for the season."

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EDSON C. EASTMAN, Publisher,

CONCORD, N.H.

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Passengers by this line obtain **more** and **finer views** of **White Mountain Scenery** than can be had on any other route. It is the **only** line **through** the White Mountains, and offers in addition such variety of lake and ocean scenery, that, as a pleasure route, it stands unrivalled.

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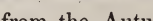

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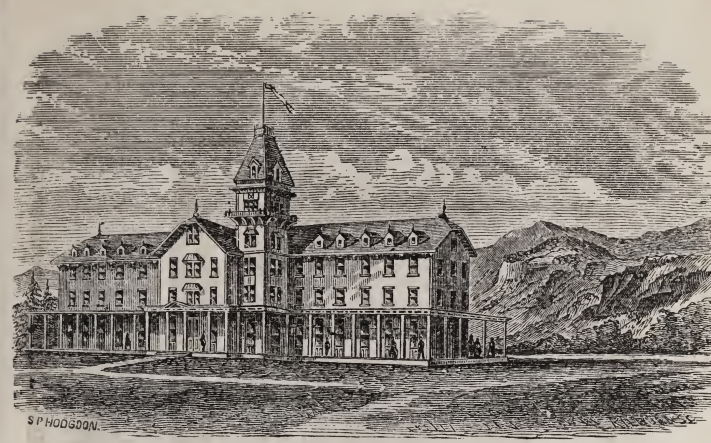

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